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SODRE SAYS NO RENEWAL OF CUBAN TIES IN 1986

PY101203 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1126 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Brasilia, 10 Mar (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre announced today over state radio that Brazil will not renew relations with Cuba during the course of this year, and he said that the delay was due to the "careful process with which the project is being conducted."

After the return of democracy to Brazil nearly 1 year ago, President Jose Sarney ordered the Foreign Ministry to draft a report on the renewal of the links with Cuba that were broken in April 1964. The Foreign Ministry has announced that the renewal of relations with the Cuban regime is in the hands of President Sarney.

The report includes aspects related to national security that were evaluated by the National Security Council, which then submitted the report to the president. Brazil broke off diplomatic ties with Havana, accusing Cuba of interfering in its internal affairs.

SAUDI MILITARY TEAM ARRIVES TO INSPECT WEAPONS

PY070250 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Mar 86 p 6

[By reporter Dalton Moreira]

[Excerpt] Vale do Paraiba -- In complete secrecy and led by National Service for Intelligence (SNI) agents and soldiers from the aeronautics police shock troops, a Saudi military mission, headed by General Johani Ahmed Al [name as published] and Air Force Colonel Issam Rhalid Kaurdi, is scheduled to arrive today at 0930 at the Aerospace Technology Center (CTA) military airport in San Jose dos Campos (97 km northeast of Sao Paulo). Those security measures were ordered by the Foreign Ministry to prevent the press from approaching the mission.

The mission arrived yesterday in Brazil from Paris, after stopping in Rio de Janeiro, where government seurity agents prevented any contact with the press. Initially, this morning the military men are scheduled to visit the Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.] and Avibras [Brazilian Aerospace Industry] facilities. In the afternoon, they are scheduled to visit Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company]. All the leading Brazilian military industries are located in Sao Jose dos Campos. Another Saudi military mission visited the facilities of those enterprises in November 1985.

The main goal of the Arab military men is to learn about the military equipment they purchased from Brazil through a contract signed on 20 December 1985 for $3 billion. They are also supposed to finalize details for exporting that equipment.

The Arabs acquired 1,000 ET-Osorio tanks (manufactured by Engesa), Astros-2 multi-rocket launcher units (manufactured by Avibras), and also T-27 "Tucano" military training airplanes, which are manufactured by Embraer. This exchange package also includes a spareparts factory for the Osorio tanks in Saudi Arabia.

## AIR FORCE WANTS TO ACQUIRE MIRAGE, F-5E PLANES

PY080235 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Mar 86 p 6

[Text] Brasilia -- The Brazilian Government is trying to convince the French Air Force to exchange Brasilia transport planes manufactured by Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] for second-hand Mirage supersonic planes that Brazil would buy in France. The Brazilian Air Force (FAB), needs at least six of these interceptor plans in order to replace those lost by its main unit, the 1st Airborne, headquartered in Goias.

Each second-hand Mirage plane -- overhauled by the Dassault Company and fitted with the most modern radar and electronic equipment — costs approximately $7 million (Approximately 98 million cruzados), but Brazil is not interested in a simple purchase. "We have to sell to Europe as well," according to Aeronautics Minister Brigadier General Octavio Moreira Lima. "Thus, we must interest the French in the Brasilia so that we can purchase the Mirages we need," he added. Each Brasilia costs approximately $5 million (nearly 70 million cruzados).

This is not the only obstacle that the FAB must surmount in order to refurbish its combat aviation force. The Ministry of Aeronautics is currently finding it difficult to purchase approximately 26 second-hand F-5E planes that it needs to replace tnose missing from the three units that use this type of plane. Two countries have already told the FAB that they did not have any of these planes to sell: the United States and South Korea (the F-5E is manufactured by the U.S. company Northrop). In 1975 the FAB purchased 45 F-5E planes which are currently operating from the Rio de Janeiro and Rio Grande do Sul bases. The U.S. Air Force has already informed the FAB that it would be prepared to sell a batch of these planes to the FAB, but this cannot be accomplished this year because the program to reequip the USAF has been delayed. The Americans will replace the F-5E's with the F-20 "Tigershark" [preceding word in English] which is also manufactured by Northrop.

The Mirage and F-5E planes are the most powerful aircraft of the FAB, but they are obsolete. The Mirage prototype flew for the first time in the mid-1960s and became famous in 1967 during the so-called 6-Days War. The F-5E was developed as a match for the Soviet Mig-21 and Mig-25. The minister of aeronautics explained the FAB's interest in second-hand and obsolete planes by saying that "the AMX fighter plane project that we are jointly developing with the Italians is extremely expensive. Until this project is completed we cannot even think in terms of a different strategy."

## PROJECTS SEEK ACCESS TO PACIFIC, CARIBBEAN

PY101735 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2102 GMT 9 Mar 86

[By Francisco Roque Bacarreza]

[Text] Brasilia, 9 Mar (EFE) — It was officially reported today that Brazil will renew its long-standing aspiration of having direct access to the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea through Peruvian and Venezuelan territories. Transport Minister Reynaldo Tavares is preparing a program of highway and railroad integration which also calls for an extension of ties with neighboring countries and the consolidation of the long-standing desire for access to the Pacific Ocean.

Tavares' plan was announced today, and in the chapter referring to the access to the Pacific it foresees the paving of the highway that links Porto Velho with Rio Branco, between the territory of Rondonia and Acre state, in the western part of the country. The program foresees the utilization of the highway facility already existing in Peruvian territory where there are 800 km of highway, of which 700 km are already paved, linking the Brazilian border with the important port of Callao, near Lima.

Brazil has for several decades sought a link with the Pacific Ocean. One of the alternative plans is the Bolivian railroad connection, between the departments of Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, to reach the Chilean ports of Arica and Antofagasta, but for several reasons the Bolivian alternative could not be accepted.

Brazil already has a nonpaved road running parallel to the northern Bolivian border linking Porto Velho with the border town of Bolpebra, and the link with the Peruvian highway system will start from there, according to the plan. Minister Tavares' project also includes the improvement of the northern highway system to give access to the Caribbean Sea through Venezuelan territory. The plan foresees the paving of the Manaus-Boa Vista highway (in Roraima territory) as far as the border town of Santa Elena.

According to the plan announced today, the idea is to have a means of communication to facilitate future exports of Brazilian products to neighboring countries, to strengthen bilateral trade, and to have alternative routes to the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. From the military standpoint, for reasons of strategy, the construction of a highway in the north is proposed to link the western part of the state of Amazonas with Amapa Territory, along the borders with Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, and Dutch Guiana [as received].

According to the plan, the connection with the Caribbean Sea is based on the foreseeable growth of the industrial, livestock and agricultural production of the state of Amazonas and of Roraima territory. In Manaus, capital of Amazonas, an industrial complex has been built for the production of computers and sophisticated electronic equipment. According to the Transport Ministry's data, the professionals dealing with this project will conclude the strategy of the highway and railroad connection this year.

SODRE TO REPRESENT GOVERNMENT AT PALME'S FUNERAL

PY101345 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre will leave on 15 March for Stockholm, Sweden, where he will represent the Brazilian Government at Olof Palme's funeral.

FUNARO COMPARES AUSTRAL, CRUZADO PLANS

PY072040 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] The Group of 24 tonight ended its 3-day meeting at the San Martin Cultural center. Among those attending the meeting was Brazilian Finance Minister Dilson Funaro, who 7 days ago informed the Brazilian people about the implementation of the Cruzado monetary plan.

TVI talked with Funaro about this subject:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Was the Cruzado monetary plan based on different guidelines from those of the Austral Plan because its planners left out certain elements which had already been tested in Argentina?

[Funaro] No, I believe that there are similarities and differences between our two countries. Our plan is a monetary reform and as such it is undoubtedly similar to the Austral Plan. But the economic situations are different. We did not have an exchange problem, and we had no public deficit problem. Therefore, there is a structural difference between the two. But a monetary reform has been adopted for the two countries and I believe that this is the important thing. What happened with the freeze on prices here in Argentina is now taking place in Brazil. Therefore, there are differences but also coincidences.

[Reporter] What provisions is Brazil making regarding the economic growth rate?

[Funaro] Last year our economic growth rate totaled 8.3 percent. We hope we will continue to achieve economic growth despite the implementation of the monetary reform plan.

[Reporter] What are your plans about investments?

[Funaro] I believe that now these will be feasible because it is very difficult to find anyone who would like to invest in a country experiencing 3-digit inflation. But now confidence has been restored, and I believe this will result in massive investments. [end recording]

URANIUM SHIPMENT SENT TO ANGRA-1 PLANT

PY081818 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Mar 86 p 30

[Text] Rio de Janeiro -- The first uranium shipment to refuel the Angra-1 reactor, estimated at $40 million, was handed over yesterday by the Brazilian Nuclear Corporation [Nuclebras] to Furnas [Furnas Electric Power Plants, Inc.] The shipment was transported in several trucks protected by vehicles of the military police, the highway patrol, and the fire department. The security on the stretch of highway between Resende and Itaorna beach was unprecedented. This fuel will replace one-third of the uranium already burned in the Angra-1 reactor. It was partially produced in Resende.

In fact, this fuel element, or uranium pellets, were only enclosed at the Nuclebras fuel elements plant. The natural uranium extracted from Poco de Caldas has yet to make the long trip abroad to be enriched, going first to France where it is converted in the Pechiney plants into uranium hexafluoride (UF-6). Then the uranium is sent to Urenco, in England, where it is enriched, and then taken the FRG to be synthetized and turned into pellets before it arrives in Resende, where it is placed in the zircaloy rods from Argentina.

Although Brazil has invested $30 million in the fuel factory and $280 million in the pilot plant for enriched uranium, the country is taking its first steps to absorb and master the technology of the fuel cycle. The investments were postponed due to delays in the nuclear program, and progress during the last 3 years was practically nil. The fuel elements factory has achieved almost nothing since 1983. To keep from being idle, it has begun to manufacture precision components for Boeing and the Brazilian Aeronautics Company (Embraer) for the Tucano and AMX planes.

The pilot plant for the "jet-nozzle" [preceding words in English] uranium enrichment process requires an investment of $20 million to start the first series of associated condensers with 24 pages. This first series of condensers is one unit for a 400-stage industrial plant. Each stage is composed of a huge compressor, a heat exchanger, and a chember with the elements for Uranium 235 separation.

Technicians of the Brazilian Nuclear Corporations, Inc (Nuclebras) have reported that even if the technological problems associated with this process are overcome and it can successfully produce enriched uranium at an industrial rate, rather than just a laboratory level, this uranim enrichment plant would still be extremely costly. Its productive unit, called Isotopic Separation Unit [Unidate de Separacao Isotopica -- UTS], will cost $450 compared to the $150 [figures as published] Urenco charges Brazil for the same service. The international market for enriched uranium is saturated with offers, and the United States has announced that it will put its laser-enriched uranium plant into operation this year, charging $80 per UTS.

The Nuclebras technicians believe it is absurd that the country has invested $280 million in constructing the pilot plant and is now considering suspending the plan for lack of $20 million. They are certain that the process can produce enriched uranium at industrial levels, but they must know if it offers an effective control system, if the series of associated condensers can work at a steady pace, how much energy will be used, the necessary level of redundancy, and how the central systems must be composed, besides obtaining data on the separation of UF-6 through hydrogen.

If the government decides to grant the remaining $20 million required to carry out the project, which seems to be the most reasonable alternative, the above questions will only be answered in 1988, when the government will receive a report appraising construction of an industrial plant costing DM2 billion, or almost $1 billion. In any case, the Nuclebras technicians defend continuing construction at the enriched uranium plant. Work at the Resende industrial nuclear complex, meanwhile, is semi-paralyzed.

## HEAVY RAINS LEAVE 32,000 HOMELESS IN FORTALEZA

PY101447 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] According to the Civilian Defense Coordinating Broad, 32,000 persons have lost their homes in Fortaleza. The heavy rains that are hitting this state may yet increase this number of victims. The prefecture is still surveying the number of homeless in the slum areas and on the outskirts of Fortaleza. The victims are being taken in Army trucks to public buildings or higher grounds. The Brazilian Foods Company [Cobal] has begun distribution of the food that has been provided by the Superintendency for Development of the Northeast [Sudene].

## PROGOVERNMENT LIBERALS ON VERGE OF VICTORY

PA101645 Paris AFP in Spanish 1615 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (AFP) -- Colombia's legislative elections seemed to give a resounding victory to the pro-government Liberals after 75 percent of the 40,250 polling places that operated on Sunday were tallied.

According to the figures, the defeated party is the dissident New Liberalism of Senator Luis Carlos Galan.

In its bulletin No 9, issued at 1530 GMT today, the National Civil Registry Office, which organized and held the elections, disclosed the following figures for the Senate:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pro-government Liberals | 2,643,743 | 48.6 percent |
| New Liberalism (dissidents) | 372,366 | 6.8 percent |
| Conservatives | 2,030,594 | 37.0 percent |
| Patriotic Unity (communist) | 72,937 | 1.3 percent |
| Other parties | 298,701 | 5.4 percent |
| Unregistered Lists | 1,890 | 0.03 percent |
| Blank votes | 11,264 | 0.2 percent |
| Nul votes | 8,052 | 0.1 percent |
| Total votes | 5,439,567 | |

The Registry Office noted that these figures were the result of the count from 30,750 polling places, out of a total of 40,250, representing 75 percent of the voting locations.

## PANAMA'S FOREIGN MINISTER OPPOSES AID TO CONTRAS

PA081700 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0048 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] Bogota, 7 Mar (DPA) -- In Bogota, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias has condemned any military aid to the Nicaraguan contras, emphasizing the vigilance and inspection commission to be created for bilateral peace between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

The U.S. Congress is debating President Ronald Reagan's request for $100 million in military and logistic aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries who are fighting to overthrow the Sandinist regime.

Abadia Arias met for more than 1 hour with Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo at the Eldorado Airport and then continued on his way to Buenos Aires, where he will meet with President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo regarding the latest international events.

Abadia Arias and Ramirez Ocampo exchanged ideas on the Latin American foreign debt and the Central American crisis.

During his short stay in Bogota, Abadia stressed the efforts that Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and Panama are carrying out to find a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis.

## IMPASSE WITH REBEL GENERAL VARGAS CONTINUES

### Government Sets Deadline

PA101830 Paris AFP in Spanish 1814 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Guayaquil, 10 Mar (AFP) -- At noon today the Ecuadoran Government set a deadline of 1900 (0000 GMT) today, Monday, for dismissed Air Force General Frank Vargas Pazzos, who has been rebelling since Friday at Manta air base, to desist from his attitude. Otherwise, at that time Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero will announce via national television network the measures to be taken to end the rebellion, said Jaime Nebot, governor of Guayaquil Province, on behalf of the president.

### Vargas Rejects Deadline

PA102332 Paris AFP in Spanish 2237 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manta, Ecuador, 10 Mar (AFP) -- Eduadoran General Frank Vargas Pazzos, who is in mutiny at the Air Force Base in Manta, asked Ecuadoreans this afternoon to "go out into the streets and struggle for your dignity, to defend the truth against the tyranny we are living in." Vargas Pazzos, who has maintained control of the powerful Eloy Alfaro Air Force Base in this city since last Friday, held a news conference this afternoon. He morally and physically challenged Guayas Governor Jaime Nebot, who announced at noon today an official deadline for Vargas to abandon his position. The military officer, dismissed as commander general of the Ecuadoran Air Force (FAE) and chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, insisted that he will maintain his position and asked the news media to fulfill "their only duty, that of seeking a free and strong homeland."

Following the news conference, civilians were evicted from the air base for the first time. Officers and troops prepared to participate in a ceremony, after which they were to immediately establish a state of alert.

### Congressmen Try Mediation

PA110007 Paris AFP in Spanish 2246 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Quito, 10 Mar (AFP) -- In an attempt to prevent "an imminent military confrontation," a parliamentary commission departed from Quito today to make contacts with President Leon Febres Cordero and loyal military commanders in Guayaquil, on the one hand, and with General Frank Vargas Pazzos, who has been leading an uprising since last Friday at the Manta Air Force base, on the other. The members of the commission left 3 hours before 1900 (0000 GMT), which is the deadline given by the government at noon today for the rebellious military leader to change his attitude. The rebellious general "deserves a sanction," Guayas Governor Jaime Nebot said when announcing the ultimatum on behalf of Febres Cordero.

After the deadline expires, the president will appear on television to announce "the definite position that will determine the actions to be taken thereafter." In view of the tension that reigns in the country following the ultimatum, the parliament unanimously agreed to send the commission, which is headed by President of Congress Averroes Bucaram and includes seven other deputies. Bucaram said that the trip was made "in order to prevent clashes between Ecuadoran brothers" and "to seek a dialogue in order to find a peaceful solution."

He added that the Congress has not renounced its mission and that "Gen Vargas Pazzos, as any citizen, can present charges, which will be given the proper attention, as the situation warrants."

Bucaram was accompanied by his fellow party men Leonidas Plaza and Francisco Mejia, of the Concentration of Popular Forces, former President of Congress Raul Baca Carbo, Jorge Zabala of the Democratic Left, Alvaro Perez of the Literal Party, and Eduardo Carmigniani of President Febres Cordero's Social Christian Party. Finally, the deputies said that the Congress "has specific reports in the sense that there could be a military confrontation in the next few hours," which the parliamentary commission is trying to prevent.

## President Rejects Mediation

PA110155 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 0035 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Guayaquil -- The public relations official of the office of the governor sent this press bulletin to journalists:

A National Congress commission visited President Leon Febres Cordero to learn about the situation created by Lieutenant General Vargas Pazzos and to mediate in the matter while respecting, as the members said, the competence of the Armed Forces. The commission was composed of Dr Averroes Bucaram, president of the Congress, and Deputies Leonidas Plaza, Alvaro Perez, Francisco Mejia, and Dr Jorge Zabala Baquerizo.

On receiving the officials, Ecuadoran President Febres Cordero said: I appreciate your patriotic visit and your concern. Nevertheless, when the Constitution is violated and an attempt is made to destabilize democracy, no mediation is possible. When a general of the Republic conspires and rebels, there is only one thing to do: namely, enforce law and apply the corresponding penalty by those who have the competence to do so, that is to say, the Ecuadoran Armed Forces. You can return to the Congress in peace. Rest assured that my actions as Ecuadoran president and commander-in-chief of the country's Armed Forces are and will be in accordance with the Constitution and bylaws. The measures that will be taken will be on a long-term basis and in a measured way.

Later the president said that no compromise will be reached regarding the principle of authority and the preservation of peace and public order. He added that the charges filed by General Vargas Pazzos will be thoroughly investigated by the corresponding agencies. Finally, the president told the legislators to rest assured that, had General Vargas Pazzos occupied the National Congress instead of the Manta air base, he, the president, would not have negotiated. He added that he will not now negotiate the fundamental principles on which the homeland's structure rests.

The legislative commission that left for Manta a few minutes ago to talk with General Vargas Pazzos said through its spokesmen that the legislators unanimously support the enforcement of the Constitution and democracy and that their intervention is aimed only at avoiding bloodshed of innocent Ecuadoreans.

## Manta Planes Reconnoiter

PA110228 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 0113 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Gonzalo Mora report from Manta Air Force base -- live]

[Text] Since the expiration of the ultimatum made by the national government to General Vargas Pazzos, the air base has begun activities which have increased tension among those present.

At 1910 or 1915, 10 planes of the Manta contingent took off in the direction of the city of Portoviejo to engage in reconnaissance flights. The flights are still under way in view of reports from Portoviejo, revealing that 300 paratroopers were ready in that city to attack the air base later this evening, according to sources close to the air base.

Other information indicated that before 1800 there was a caravan of automobiles in support of General Vargas Pazzos. At this moment another rally is under way in the streets of the city with transportation workers and university students, who are heading toward the air base. Meanwhile, some 300 persons who had gathered approximately 1,200 meters from the air base and who are being checked by elements of the national police, broke through the police cordon and proceeded toward the air base. This is all we have to report at this time on the latest incidents in this city of Manta; the population is growing restless, and most of the residents are staying indoors.

## Vargas Fears Attack by Sea

PA110700 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0549 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Quito, 11 Mar (EFE) -- Gen Frank Vargas announced early this morning that he fears an imminent attack by sea on Manta air base. The rebellious general made this statement through Radio Quito, following President Leon Febres Cordero's ultimatum in Guayaquil urging him to abandon his stance.

According to Vargas, the wives of "Pumas" corps marines had warned him that some 500 members of this special unit were reportedly ready to attack from ships off the coast. According to the radio reports, land troops have taken positions in the nearby hills that surround the base.

In this situation, and following Febres' ultimatum, Vargas said that "for me, the president has ceased to be a president and has turned into a dictator." To the presidential request that he surrender, Vargas answered that they want to crucify him, and he asked his Armed Forces companions to be prudent enough so as not to spill blood among Ecuadoreans. Regarding the encirclement, he answered that he will endure it peacefully, but that if he is attacked, he will respond with all his forces.

According to the radio reports, the morale of Vargas' troops is very high, and they estimate the number of men who could be inside the base at about 1,000. He also has many planes, but it is not possible to determine how many. In fact, while the statement of the dismissed chief of the Joint Command was being broadcast, vivas to Gen Vargas and the Armed Forces could be heard constantly. The base is in a state of maximum alert, with a total blackout and all lights turned off. From the outside, the water, electricity, telephone, and telex services have been cut off, according to the sources cited by the radio station.

## Febres Cordero Address

PA110331 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 0236 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Address to the nation by President Leon Febres Cordero on 10 March -- live or recorded]

[Test] The events that have taken place as of 7 March of this year are public knowledge. There is a member of the Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Frank Vargas Pazzos, in a state of insubordination and rebellion, having engaged in acts incompatible with the law and the morale that should honor every military man.

Lt General Frank Vargas Pazzos, regardless of the reasons for his initial position, has disturbed the citizens' peace and tranquillity which he, specifically as a member of the Armed Forces, is compelled to preserve and guarantee. He has, therefore, broken the fundamental oath that rules the authority and morale of every member of the Armed Forces.

Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos started his action not through the channels of law and order, buy through those of chaos and arbitrariness, having seized planes -- three of the Ecuadoran Military Air Transport, TAME, and two 727 aircraft that cover the Guayaquil-Quito-Cuenca route, a Fokker aircraft recently purchased to cover the Loja route -- all assigned to civilian transport service -- and two FA-130 planes, property of the Armed Forces. He also seized the Manta military and civilian air base.

These actions alone merit a drastic sanction of any civilian or military element. However, Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos has not only disturbed the nation's peace and order, he has also ignored the authority of the Armed Forces, because the population knows his attitude of contempt for and rejection of the resolutions and statements of the Ecuadoran Air Force Command and the Ecuadoran Armed Forces Joint Command. He has not accepted, as a military man, the orders of his heirarchical superior, in open rebellion against the national military command.

The attitude of Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos abandons the military and institutional field, which he has abused, to adopt a political and conspiring stance, inspired by those always resentful elements whose names are well known to all.

My attitude is also known to all of you. I have given only one interview on this delicate matter, basically for two reasons: to recover, as is my duty, respect for the Armed Forces; and out of respect for the people. Vargas, on the other hand, has not lost an opportunity to use the media to subvert order and disturb the peace, to the extent of urging the population to revolt in chaos.

The nation and you, Ecuadoreans, know that as constitutional president of the Republic and as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, I have made every possible effort demanded by prudence so he could abandon his position with honor. Many Ecuadoreans have participated in this effort, including my own wife, the presidential private secretary, lawyer Carlos Pareja, a high Army commission, no less than the High Command of the Armed Forces of Ecuador, and the Armed Forces Joint Command. The answer was always one of rebellion, disrespect, and ignorance of authority. We have used every means, and there is nothing left but to take action to stop the subversive escalation of Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos, an action that will be earmarked within the most absolute prudence but which will not tolerate further disrespect and abuse from anyone.

The Republic of Ecuador does not have to suffer the consequences derived from the attitude of a rebel official who, disregarding the procedures established by law to present a statement or a complaint, has broken every moral and legal principle. This time we will reply with actions, and these actions will be ours and the Armed Forces' reply to an insurbordinate official.

Every man, every citizen must abide by our laws. No citizen has the right to elect a special judge or court especially for himself. He, like anyone else, will be tried with honesty and in a legal manner by the judges and courts appointed according to the law.

This is known by all civilian and military citizens, it is known by Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos because, given his rank and hierarchy, he has proceeded -- on innumerable occasions -- to arrest his officers and troops for violations they have perpetrated Consequently, he cannot evade or prevent the enforcement of the same law he has used to punish or sanction. All the acts denounced by Lt Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos will be thoroughly investigated, I can guarantee that, as a measure to safeguard the honor of men and to sanction the culprits, if there are any. This is a guarantee that has been established in the laws of our Republic.

Gen Frank Vargas **Pazzos:** At 0600 on Wednesday we will establish an Armed Forces cordon around the air base in Manta, which you have arbitrarily taken over. These military forces sole orders are to completely isolate you, until they can proceed with your arrest, without harming third, uninvolved parties. The military forces have the order not to fire a single round unless you openly provoke them. If any blood is shed, it will be entirely your fault, Gen Vargas. The Armed Forces will give the news media all the facilities and guarantees so that they may ascertain the events that will take place there.

Gen Frank Vargas Pazzos: You have, unfortunately, violated the Constitution, tried to destabilize democracy, and attacked the very core of the Armed Forces. However, no matter how important you may be, Gen Vargas, you are not worth a single drop of Ecuadoran blood. The urgent need to enforce the law and its corresponding sanctions cannot be more important than the lives of innocent people or the country's military partrimony. Do not risk women and children, Gen Vargas, or the office-s who are there in good faith or under pressure. Please let them leave. In any case, the Armed Forces' cordon will keep you completely under siege until you are totally isolated. They will then proceed to your arrest, and then you will be immediately tried and sanctioned according to military laws.

You, Gen Vargas, will have -- and I guarantee this a completely impartial trial; it will not be presided over by those you describe as your personal enemies. It will be comprised of competent members, and this does not include the council of generals and admirals that you have illegally proposed, to mislead public opinion. We guarantee all the privileges, exemptions, and prerogatives that correspond to your high rank, but we will never offer you impunite, because if we did this would destroy the very structure of the Ecuadoran Armed Forces.

My stance and that of the Armed Forces of the Republic is to defend the Constitution and democracy. Those who, in addition to you, try to initiate illegal actions to ignore or contradict them will be entering the field of coups and conspiracy and will have upheld base interests contrary to the lofty ones of the Ecuadoran homeland and will have deserved, in addition to the pertinent penalty, the unanimous rejection of all Ecuadoreans.

Frank Vargas Pazzos: The military siege begins at 0600 on Wednesday. This is the end of the dealine for you to surrender without shame, like a military man, an honest man, and a man of honor, or you can have all the time you want to surrender without honor.

Thank you very much, Ecuadoreans.

## Vargas Reacts to Febres

PA110554 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 0453 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Report by Gonzalo Mora from Manta Air Force base "following the president of the Republic's national radio and television network address" -- live]

[Excerpts] [Mora] Here are the latest reports on the developments that have just taken place a few minutes ago at the Manta Air Force base.

First, the National Congress commission, headed by its president, Dr Averroes Bucaram, met for about 1 hour and 45 minutes with General Vargas Pazzos. After this meeting, the legislative commission left immediately, getting into two vehicles and taking off toward the city of Guayaquil. Congress President Bucaram simply told some 100 reporters who were inside the Air Force base that the Congress would call to trial the three generals [not further identified] who have caused this big problem in the country and that in the wake of the national government's pronouncement there was nothing else for them to do because the situation is now within a strictly military framework.

After this, Gen Vargas Pazzos appeared on the Air Force base's grounds to address the reporters. He said that everything had really been consummated and that it had been impossible to continue the meeting with the National Congress commission due to the president of the Republic's pronouncement on a radio and television network. This was Gen Vargas Pazzo's latest statement, specifically at 2240 tonight. In any event, after Gen Vargas made this statement, the civilians who had gathered at the entrance of the base gradually withdrew, and some of them formed motorcades and advanced through the city streets blowing their horns.

In a last-minute report, we have learned that a convoy of Army troops has passed the city of Jipijapa and is heading toward the city of Portoviejo, where apparently they will concentrate. This was reported at the air base by drivers coming from the city of Guayaquil.

This is all we can report at this time. The situation at the air base is calm but tense, waiting perhaps for military attacks. As Gen Vargas Pazzos said, it is feared that the siege could be simply a military tactic and there could be an imminent attack by either sea or land. This was Gonzalo Mora Lozada reporting for Radio Quito.

[Station announcer] Thank you, Gonzalo, for a brilliant report. We were waiting for your call. What worries us now is what will really happen now, which is a question we have been asking ourselves since our first contact with you in Manta. Now, Gonzalo, could you tell us if the possibility of an attack by sea is imminent at this time? Go ahead, Manta.

[Mora] Based on what Gen Vargas Pazzos himself has said -- you have heard his statement -- he has been contacted by the wives of Navy troops known as the Pumas, who have reportedly said that the Pumas, 500 of them, would be attacking the base by sea. In any event, these reports would have to be confirmed, but they are part of the official statement made by Gen Vargas Pazzos.

[Announcer] Gonzalo, regarding Gen Vargas' final decision, has he said he will resist to the end?

[Mora] Definitely so. He has replied to all the questions made by the journalists with a profound faith and firm determination. Moreover, the officers who are accompanying him are also imbued with his optimism, confidence, and faith. I am recalling a very significant event, which Quito and the rest of the country should be aware of. At approximately 2200 Colonel Narvaez, who had tried to occupy the Quito air base, arrived at the Manta air base to join the struggle headed by Colonel Vargas Pazzos. [title as heard]. At the time of his arrival, he was applauded by the large crowd that had gathered at the entrance of the air base. I consider this interesting, considering the fact that, having failed in his attempt to take over the Quito air base, he came here to support Gen Vargas Pazzos.

[Announcer] Gonzalo, please tell us about the activities in the city of Manta during the past few hours. What is the general atmosphere, considering there is manifest and evident support for Gen Frank Vargas from the civilian population? Is there a possibility for a concentration of civilians, which would obviously aggravate the problem? Go ahead, Manta.

[Mora] Yes, this could indeed help to aggravate the problem, in view of the fact that the delay in solving the crisis has made it possible for civilians to take part in the problem that initially appeared as a military problem. Gen Vargas Pazzos himself was informed at the air base that civilian forces will be concentrating tomorrow. Moreover, labor organizations have announced a work stoppage in the entire Manabi Province. In any event, this would cause additional problems. However, we will see what happens tomorrow, and we will continue reporting as much as we can.

[Announcer] Certainly, Gonzalo. Finally, considering that you have remained at the military base practically throughout the crisis, could you describe for us in general terms the military capabilities that exist at this time? Although it may seem paradoxical, we must use these terms. Could you tell us about Gen Frank Vargas' military capabilities for an attack or defense, what are his capabilities, how many men are backing him, what kind of weapons does he have? Go ahead, Manta.

[Mora] Well, in a statement made for Radio Quito 2 hours ago by a colonel who supports Vargas Pazzos, he mentioned that 1,000 men are currently inside the air base, defending it. As for the military equipment, as I said before, it is really hard to know what they have. However, according to reports, they are in a position to reply to any attack. This is all I can tell you in this respect.

[Announcer] Gonzalo, I understand that the planes that had been overflying Manta have returned to the base in the past few hours. Can you confirm this?

[Mora] Yes, that is correct. The planes returned to the air base after overflying the area for 2 or 3 hours. Gen Vargas Pazzos himself said that the aircraft overflew the area simply to observe the troops that are, not that were, but that are now posted in the Montecristi Hill and part of the Hojas Hill. He said that there are soldiers in that sector and that they have been detected hiding in the bushes in the hills I have just mentioned.

DEPUTY DENOUNCES RADIO HAVANA BROADCASTS

PY080206 Paris AFP in Spanish 1921 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Lima, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Alberto Valencia Cardenas, APR [American Revolutionary Alliance] deputy for Ayacucho, the stronghold of the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas, today charged that Radio Havana is always broadcasting messages encouraging armed struggle in Peru. Valencia, who is the Chamber of Deputies first secretary, confirmed to AFP that Radio Havana, which is being received in the mountainous area, is broadcasting from Cuba the program "Los Cuatro Suyos" (the four cardinal points) with slogans inciting subversion in the Andean area, where 7,500 people have died in the past 5 years.

Valencia stated that he has four or five cassettes with recorded broadcasts in Quechua, the Indian dialect, which will be handed over to Peruvian President Alan Garcia. Valencia stated that crimes are occurring in Ayacucho because of the slogans broadcast daily from Cuba to all four cardinal points.

Valencia, who a few weeks ago asked for increased pacification actions in the Andean emergency zone, said that the government of Fidel Castro must explain this meddling, because the Havana radio station is an official source. According to Valencia, one of the subversive texts in Quechua says: Many years ago we were as poor as you are now. We wanted to live, and we died every day because of the rich. We know that you are ready to fight, and we received that news with joy. The only way to seize power is through armed struggle. Justice is written with blood. Valencia added that the announcements are made alternately by a man and a woman with interspersed folk music, and the program begins with the Cuban national anthem.

In turn, in statements to a Lima evening daily, Radio Miraflores manager Ricardo Palma has volunterred to testify and furnish recorded material to support a protest against the Cuban Government. Palma emphasized that some time ago he started receiving the broadcasts on the 13-meter band and on a 17,350-khz frequency. Later the Cubans increased their power (wave length) to a 20-meter band at least, with a 15,525-khz frequency. In addition, Palma stated that the Cuban radio station possesses special antennas which protect the broadcasts from interference.

AIR FORCE CHIEF GOES TO PARIS FOR MIRAGE TALKS

PY071809 Paris AFP in Spanish 2138 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Lima, 6 Mar (AFP) -- General Julio Hesse, Peruvian Air Force chief of staff, traveled today to Paris to continue talks on the number of Mirage-2000 airplanes that Peru will buy from the French company Marcel Dassault. A reduction in the original order for 26 planes will be discussed at the level of a technical commission of which Gen Hesse is a member. He said before leaving that the discussions on this subject are going well, but he did not specify the exact number of planes to be purchased. Gen Hesse just reported that the talks in Paris will take 4 or 5 days.

Upon returning from Paris a few weeks ago Foreign Minister Allan Wagner revealed that a commission of French and Peruvian experts will establish the number of planes to be purchased. However, since President Alan Garcia announced last July that the number of planes would be reduced from the original number agreed to by President Belaunde Terry's administration, the Peruvian authorities have said repeatedly that only 14 airplanes will be purchased.

## JOURNALIST REPORTS TELEVISION CENSORSHIP

PY072154 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1613 GMT 6 Mar 86

[Text] Lima, 6 Mar (EFE) -- The host of a weekly television program that was off the air unexpectedly on 4 March today reported that the Armed Forces Joint Command had exerted pressure on station directors to prevent the program from going on the air.

Journalist Cesar Hildebrant, the host of the "Encuentro" program on a local television station, said that censorship was imposed on comments about the kidnapping of Navy officer Alvaro Artaza, alias "Commandante Camion," who is accused of violation of human rights in the Ayacucho emergency zone.

Hildebrant said on the censored program that the officer's kidnapping a few weeks ago was in reality a "self-kidnapping" to prevent his from appearing in court.

Artaza is accused of being responsible for the disappearance of reporter Jaime Ayala, the deaths of seven members of a Protestant sect, and other people detained in the Marine Infantry garrison of Huanta, Ayacucho Department.

First reports indicated that Artaza was kidnapped by Shining Path members, but this organization later distributed pamphlets in Lima denying responsibility for the kidnapping.

Hildebrant said that the Armed Forces Joint Command has pressured the directors of all television channels not to report on any military men involved in crimes. Hildebrant said about the censorship that one of the directors of the television station where "Encuentro" is shown told him that there was a "commitment" not to show issues affecting the "honor of the men in uniform."

Hildebrant today said that he is going to send a telegram to IAPA, which is now meeting in Brazil, to report his program's censorship "as a flagrant violation of freedom of expression."

## BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY ACCREDITED -- The new Peruvian Ambassador to Italy, Luis Solari Tudela, has presented his credentials to Italian President Francesco Cossiga. [Summary] [Lima Radioprogramas del Peru Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Mar 86 PY]

## HUNGARY'S FOREIGN MINISTER SUPPORTS CONTADORA

FL072338 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2125 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs Peter Varkonyi has spoken in support of the peace-seeking efforts of the Contadora Group and has rejected statements by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to the effect that the Contadora Group is mistaken in its Central American policy. Upon his arrival in the Mexican capital, the Hungarian minister of foreign affairs said the Central American crisis must be resolved by peaceful means through negotiations, with no foreign intervention, and with strict respect for the sovereignty of the peoples. If all the interested parties obeyed these rules, he said, the Central American crisis could be resolved in a matter of months.

Varkonyi stressed Mexico's role in Contadora, saying that Mexican participation and that of the Support Group contribute to the solution of Latin American problems by the interested parties, without foreign intervention.

At a press conference held in the official salon of Mexico City International Airport, the Hungarian official said the problem was very serious and difficult to resolve; he also pointed out the urgent need to create a new economic order.

### Sepulveda Meets Varkonyi

FL081500 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0400 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 7 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor said today that the international economic crisis is due to the claims made by countries and majority groups that search only for development.

During a reception held for Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi, who arrived in Mexico City today and will stay until Sunday, Sepulveda Amor said each nation should determine the method of confronting and directing the economic crisis without outside interference. The Mexican foreign secretary also said that during the last 10 years Mexico and Hungary have considerably developed their diplomatic relations and economic and cultural ties. Currently, he said, we have agreements in the areas of trade, education, science-technology, and culture, which has allowed for gradual diversification of cooperation.

Varkonyi said that in multilateral affairs, the two countries agree on universal disarmement, peaceful solutions to conflicts, increased efficiency in the UN system, and international law.

Sepulveda Amor stressed Hungary's role in promoting dialogue and reciprocal confidence in Europe.

## JUSTICE CHARGED WITH HELPING DRUG TRAFFICKERS

PA110359 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] Members of the Supreme Court of Justice in plenum agreed yesterday to suspend Justice Jose de Jesus Taboada Hernandez, who will be investigated in order to determine his responsibility in the presumed crime of revoking a warrant of arrest and ordering the release of a band of drug traffickers.

NICARAGUAN PLI LEADER GODOY ON OPPOSITION

PA060310 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Interview with Virgilio Godoy, president of Nicaragua's Independent Liberal Party, PLI, by Marvin Correa in Panama City; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correa] I welcome you, Dr Godoy, to "Special Edition." Please introduce yourself to our viewers. You were a presidential candidate in the past elections.

[Godoy] Yes. For the past 8 years I have been the national president of the Liberal Party which, as you said, is now part of the opposition, although this was not always the case.

We were part of the struggle against Somoza, and in the early times we also supported the process of changes in Nicaragua within the framework of what was called the program of national reconstruction. Now, in view of the manner in which the political system has evolved, we are again a part of the opposition in which we spent 35 years struggling against Somoza.

[Correa] Doctor, many of us do not understand how you can work politically -- not that you do not exist or organize yourselves, not that you do not exist as a political party, or struggle politically -- but we do not understand how there can be politicians who believe that communists with good ideological backgrounds, who belong to the group of people who believe in changes through the system of state power, can be worked with politically. For example, I see that your vice presidential candidate was a Marxist, a declared Marxist. I have read about him, this Pereira, Constantino Pereira. How could you work politically with a person who does not share the liberal principles the liberal parties in Latin America have traditionally endorsed?

[Godoy] Well, I am not really very sure if this person is really a Marxist. He is a very shrewd businessman. It would be very strange to find a merely declared Marxist who is a capitalist -- and at times among the shrewdest -- at the business level. There is a lot of that in Latin America, contradictions between the way one thinks and reality. It was not difficult because we were determined. Liberalism does not mean to us a static, frozen, or deadlocked activity, but a growing movement aimed at simultaneously, or nearly so, the requirements for well-being that make it possible for people to think of defending their liberties better and, therefore broadening the framework of those liberties which many times have only existed in books, in the laws, but which in practice have been very slim, very weak, and have been repeatedly trampled.

Therefore, all of this makes up a liberal party which, by its multiclassist definition, includes people who could be a little beyond liberal thought in one way or another, because they cover the entire chromatic scale. This happens more often than we would like, but it is a reality. This does not happen in vertically oriented parties, but the liberal and democratic parties rather tend to have horizontal organizations where opinions must be heard, and where there is an internal situation that allows dismissals, promotions, and demotions, depending on the capabilities of each person in a political community.

In addition to this, it is not only personal activities but each organization's strategies or tactics that allow certain people to move up at a given time. Therefore, I can explain the concern expressed in your question, in your observation. In the specific case of this man, who is no longer a liberal, he was finally expelled from our ranks more than a year ago.

He has been tossing about in the air because he is not on one side or the other, he is not accepted on our side, and the other does not trust him. You imagine that this is a very uncomfortable situation.

[Correa] Doctor, what is your opinion of the trade embargo imposed on your country by the United States? Many people believe and say that each country has the right to trade with whomever they want, and yet they justify the embargo as another form of pressure against the Nicaraguan Government to force it to talk with the opposition, with all opposition against its government, whether in arms or not, and the political opposition. Meanwhile, others see it as a rather cruel way to punish a people, because the people have suffered, and others feel that the embargo -- as in Cuba -- did not really work because Nicaragua trades with other countries that have trade relations with all nations, such as Panama, for example, which has opened trade to everyone. Proof of this is that Nicaragua has many businesses that purchase whatever they want here, be it from the United States or not. In other words, the embargo has not effectively pressured Nicaragua.

[Godoy] I would say there is a little of everything you have mentioned. The embargo is cruel because it hurts the people, who are not to be blamed for what a government does, it subjects them to restrictions. It is inefficient because there are a number of ways to evade the problem. Triangulation is very common. In Nicaragua, if you have the dollars to import, you can get anything you want from the United States. You simply order from a second country, and from there the merchandise is sent to Nicaragua. The embargo has also been used as a justification. It has been used by the government to point out the U.S. Government's aggressive policies.

From my point of view the embargo was an error, a mistake, because it has not fulfilled the objectives it pursued or still pursues from the viewpoint of those who imposed it. It serves those who theoretically endure it, although in fact it is only a formality. There is even a U.S. airline that makes direct Miami-Managua flights every week, despite the embargo. Well then, this was one of the many mistakes that are made in international policy and which have not had satisfactory results for anyone; not for those who imposed it or for those who have to endure it. It has simply been exploited as another argument within a policy that describes it as aggressive.

[Correa] Do you believe that the opposition to the government of the nine commanders should sit down and talk? That is, the armed opposition as well as the internal opposition; you, the politicians?

[Godoy] That is perhaps one of the issues most debated for a long time in Nicaragua; the government says no! The U.S. Government says yes! This is a condition for things to return to normal. However, in politics things are never black or white. Normally, colors are shades, some a little lighter, others a little darker, but they are not black or white. The world is not divided between the good and the bad. Those people who are at times good, other times bad, most of the time more good than bad, can eventually be more bad than good. However, some type of norm usually prevails, and in this case governments are like people. They have incurable vanity, they are always a little stubborn, and they always try to save face. I believe that in the end this is what will happen. There will be negotiations, but they will be such that they will not mean that -- in Contadora language -- the regular groups and irregular armed groups sit down with the commanders.

In the end what really matters is the solution of the problem. It is not necessary for the groups to be sitting face to face to come to an agreement. This is my opinion.

[Correa] You believe, then, that the time will come when the nine commanders will sit down and talk with the armed opposition and the political opposition?

[Godoy] Perhaps the nine, the six, the three, or the one, but something must be done, because I think it is a fait accompli, that there is no possibility that the Nicaraguan case will be solved through military means. Anyone who thinks in this manner should just simply accept there is the possibility that this might lead to a very long war. In Guatemala the guerrillas have been fighting for over 30 years. In Colombia the guerillas have also been fighting for over 30 years. From an internal point of view, what we seek is some formula that will prevent two things that are very dear to us: bloodshed, mostly affecting youths, and a destruction of what little we have. It does not please us at all to think that, in the long run, when finally this is solved someday, we will have a negotiated solution on top of smoking debris. Thus, we think that common sense will have to prevail somehow, and we must reach that negotiations table as soon as possible.

[Correa] Doctor, as I speak with you I am thinking that your stand is different from the stand of those ruling Nicaragua -- the nine commanders -- and wonder how can you exist as a political opponent in a country where the media is under total censorship? The government fully controls most of the media, the divine mobs physically punish anyone carrying out public opposition activities, there are defense committees in the neighborhoods who denounce anyone who makes even a small reference to any opposition. How can a political opposition exist in such a country, in a fully totalitarian regime?

[Godoy] I understand you perfectly well, but when an outsider looks at Nicaragua, he sees only two things: The FSLN on one side, and the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] on the other side....

[Correa, interrupting] Or the UNO [Nicaraguan Opposition Unity].

[Godoy] Well, that is more or less the same thing. The rest of the story, which includes the political parties that are inside, takes place inside, as if behind a wall. Nobody finds out about anything, nobody worries, and perhaps nobody cares. But the truth is that they exist and they are working.

[Correa] Do you not think that your group is legitimizing the government, since you are being used to establish this confusion that the nine commanders have established in the world? Many people think that the Nicaraguan Government is not totalitarian, in spite of the fact there is no freedom, the church is being persecuted, many private enterprises have been intervened in or confiscated, and human rights are not respected.

[Godoy] That argument has been manipulated. It is very difficult to determine. Sometimes I wonder when I ask some people if this is true even though, for example, LA PRENSA is being published, although it is subject to censorship. One might then think that LA PRENSA is contributing to this international legitimate picture the country presents. However, it is very difficult. The armed political action could be one way to legitimize the government. This allows the government to have the excuse that it is defending itself from those who are receiving strong foreign support. The same could be said of the persons who have had to leave the country, for several reasons. What is better: to be outside, where it is possible to speak out, as I am doing here, but I also speak out over there.

[Correa] Where?

[Godoy] In Managua.

[Correa] Through what means?

[Godoy] Through the small meetings that are still being held.

One cannot speak in the social communications media, because it is under government control. However, what is said outside does find its way inside. That is the message.

[Correa] On the subject of Contadora, you have said here that it cannot be said that Contadora has made use of all its resources and you give the group much credit. Some international political observers believe Contadora has given the Nicaraguan Government an opportunity to gain solidarity, to achieve its totalitarian revolution, which is the goal of the government. How do you feel about Contadora?

[Godoy] Undoubtedly, Contadora has been a very controversial effort. Some say it has allowed time for the FSLN to consolidate its power, to equip itself with weapons. I feel it would have happened, regardless of Contadora. We must consider Contadora more on the subject of what it will do if the document is ever signed, than what it has achieved so far. Chapter Two is very important. It refers to the internal situations, to the process of national reconciliation.

On the other hand, even if there has been militarization, the document also refers to demilitarization, to disarmament, to the departure of the foreign military advisers, and so forth. Naturally, this goal has not been reached yet. There has been a lot of work done, but it has not been completed yet. All necessary efforts have been made. However, the problem is not strictly a Central American problem. It is not strictly a Nicaraguan problem, or a strictly Salvadoran problem. The region has become a sordid battlefield -- and the Contadora foreign ministers themselves have admitted this -- of the interests of the superpowers. The superpowers have their own appetities, because after all, the superpowers have taken upon themselves certain responsibilities that necessarily lead them to frictions, rivalries, and so forth.

In this respect, the Nicaraguan case is a very significant example. In addition to the internal problems -- the struggle of the Nicaraguans themselves -- there is the struggle for control by two superpowers. This is what has poisoned more, let us say, the atmosphere in such a manner that Contadora is now in the same situation as the internal political parties. There is a struggle between the superpowers, and Contadora is one side. No matter how hard it works Contadora is not given credit. In the case of Nicaragua, the struggle is between the FDN and the FSLN, and the political parties are apparently removed from this framework of actions.

Thus, I think the problem is that Contadora has not yet achieved some sort of an agreement that can be strictly fulfilled, with clear mechanisms of verification and control and with effective commitments within each country in order to reach some sort of national conciliation that will allow a reduction in violence and to attack the root of the problem, that is the social problems. One cannot allow the majority of the people to continue living in poverty, illiterate, sick, and naked, because this is when totalitarianism becomes a temptation. It is easy for a hungry person to accept a certain role in exchange for meeting his basic needs. This is something we politicians have not clearly understood, that the people can defend their liberties better and can resist these temptations if their basic needs are met.

[Correa] Doctor, the Nicaraguan Government has been charged with.... [changes thought] I have seen a statement by a former member or someone who participated in such drug trafficking operations. In addition, I have heard the information about the Nicaraguan Government's participation in the case of the Supreme Court of Justice in Colombia affirmed. Practically all the members of the Court and 50 other people were killed during this attack. What do you think about a government that tries to meddle in other countries' affairs through violence?

Some of us in Central America fear that we now have on our continent a government that has declared as one of its objectives expanding revolution to the Central American area. It has shown this to be so because it knows it can do it. What is your opinion?

[Godoy] A considerable messianism always exists in revolutionary movements, particularly in those of the far left. They not only consider themselves to be the saviors of their own immediate situation, but they feel they are sort of pioneers or small prophets of the social revolution events elsewhere. This is an old, rather than a new story. In our own time, we the liberals have suffered this intoxication. Of course, it is much more difficult and also easier today, depending on how we look at it. The world has become more interdependent and smaller by the day. Because of this, it is relatively easy to detect this type of movement based on triumphalism or revolutionariness. This is more or less the idea.

Naturally, this elicits an affectionate adhesion in many people. We Latin Americans are very romantic and give a halo of martyrdom, heroism, and sacrifice for efforts to sell a product that we have not yet seen but that sounds very good to us. We suffered a similar illusion in the last years of the dynasty. We used to say something like this: Anything that comes after this will be better. This is a fatal and dangerous concept. Precisely for this reason, current political speeches stress caution against issuing a sort of blank check, so to speak, for someone else to write the amount. All that comes will not necessarily be better. We must move slowly and carefully, particularly seeking a sense of confidence to know what we are up against and why and where we want to go rather than simply entering the future like someone who jumps out of a window, into the void.

[Correa] We still have some 5 minutes left. I would like to discuss the Catholic Church's struggle with the Nicaraguan Government's threats and censorship. Do you believe that Cardinal Obando y Bravo is truly a leader with authority since he struggled against another dictatorship, since a large percentage of the Nicaraguan people are Catholics and believe in him, and since he won the people's trust due to his humility? Is he really very important in this struggle for Nicaragua's freedom?

[Godoy] The participation of everyone is important in this struggle. Naturally, the Catholic Church is not a political party. To a certain extent, this is advantageous because it prevents the church from embracing a specific ideology in democracy. Among Catholics there are liberals, conservatives, social Christians, social democrats, you name it. The cardinal is a figure with authority because he has always been willing to defend the basic rights of the Nicaraguan Catholic community, which is very large. We never know exactly how many, but apparently more than 80 percent of Nicaraguans are Catholics. So, one of the mistakes of the government and its party was precisely first to become separated from it, and then to have more or less strong disagreements with the Catholic Church. This faith is something which is deeply rooted in the Nicaraguans and particularly the peasants. To touch the Catholic Church and its leaders, for example cardinals, bishops, or priests, is a bit like stirring a wasps' nest. Care was not taken to seek a realistic solution to disagreements, and the church people were attacked in two ways: First, rather strong pressure was put on them; and second, through a degree of support for the development of the so-called popular church. It is a very curious church, as it is directed by aristocratic priests. This is very interesting, and one of the many contradictions that one can observe in this very small, but terribly complex country. Then, the cardinal....

[Correa, interrupting] Is the popular church becoming very strong?

[Godoy] No, at the beginning it was, but the Catholics soon rallied round their natural leader, in this case, Cardinal Obando Y Bravo.

[Correa] In other words, they have helped strengthen the Catholic Church.

[Godoy] This is another illustration that such situations sometimes backfire. Really...

[Correa, interrupting] The people side with the victim.

[Godoy] Let us say this brought about a consensus and a strengthening of the traditional ecclesiastical structures in the country.

[Correa] Doctor, what do you think about the political leaders of the armed movements FDN and UNO, such as Calero, Robelo, and Cruz? What is your opinion?

[Godoy] As you will understand, I am a member of a political party. I am the president of a political party. My activities are civilian, civic. Therefore, in principle, we cannot share, much less admit, the idea that violence is the proper way to settle problems. We have mentioned this to the government and to other groups. I will not discuss the reasons for this here. I believe that, as they said recently, these groups and organizations will some day choose negotiations rather than devastation. This is an encouraging sign. I hope this will not only be a statement, but a clear evidence that they want to treat this path. UNO's recent statement is also an indication of this. In addition, the Nicaraguan Government has expressed willingness to negotiate and, of course, set impossible terms. I think the climate will have to improve until one of these days -- I hope it will be soon -- we can be face to face, not necessarily in a physical manner, but through political willingness, to reach in accord that will reconcile the Nicaraguan people, permit the restoration of peace, and facilitate a new effort for the solution of those big problems that I mentioned some moments ago.

## NATIONWIDE STRIKE GAINS 'PARTIAL SUPPORT'

PA101906 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1743 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] The national strike promoted by the National Council of Organized Workers, Conato, has received partial support until now, according to reports from all parts of the country. In Panama City, almost all industries are operating almost normally. Public institutions are offering their services to the community, with the exception of the Institute for Hydraulic Resources and Electrification, IRHE, whose workers have joined the Conato strike. Shops in Panama City opened for business as usual, and there are many persons walking down Central Avenue. However, at approximately 1130, a small group from the Business Workers Union closed the stores on Central Avenue, the most important commercial area in the city. The stores owners had no choice but to close in view of the pressure from the workers which might have led to violence, while the authorities just watched and did nothing. Traffic was also affected when the important avenue was practically blocked. While this happened on Central Avenue, the leader of the Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Panama, Ricardo Monterrey, analyzed the strike and said:

[Begin recording] The unions are abiding by the call to strike. We have received reports from Chiriqui that Petroterminales de Panama, Inc., the Coca-Cola Company in Chiriqui, the banana company at Bocas del Toro, and the Panama refinery have all stopped work. We want to our people to remain firm, to remain on strike, and to remain calm because we do not want any violence. However, we want them to remain firm in our stand. We also want to tell the national government that we are part of this country and that if they are negotiating with the banking sector, they should also talk with the people. We are the people [end recording]

## EL SALVADOR

### DUARTE DISCUSSES SIMULTANEOUS DIALOGUE PROPOSAL

PA102256 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Interview with President Jose Napoleon Duarte by YSKL correspondent Rosa Candida Castillo on 10 March in San Salvador -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Castillo] What can you tell us about the peace proposal made to Nicaragua, in the sense that they hold talks with the contras while you do the same here with the guerrillas? What do you have to say?

[Duarte] I have made this proposal for the sake of peace, because as long as Nicaragua continues to destabilize the country, peace cannot be achieved in El Salvador. Therefore, the search for peace in El Salvador is linked to the search for peace in Nicaragua. An understanding between Nicaragua and El Salvador is vital to achieve peace in our country. I think the people understand this, and this is why I made the proposal. Of course, the extreme left will not accept the proposal; some of them have already rejected it. Why? Because they are not truly interested in peace. They do not want to participate in a sincere dialogue for peace. Instead, they want a tactical dialogue, to make propaganda for themselves. However, that is not the important issue. What is important is trying to achieve peace.

[Castillo] Do you have the support of other government leaders concerning your peace proposal to Nicaragua?

[Duarte] Well, several government leaders have made favorable comments. May I recall that a few days ago, the Panamanian... [corrects himself] Costa Rican president-elect made a statement some interpreted in the sense that he was not supporting the democratic process. However, immediately after I presented the proposal he made a statement expressing his total support for it. The Honduran and Guatemalan presidents have also voiced their support. In sum, the presidents in the area and also in other parts, as in South America and the United States have been analyzing my proposal. Moreover, U.S. President Reagan has appointed a new representative to Central America, whose first visit will be to El Salvador, precisely to discuss this peace proposal.

[Castillo] What is your opinion of the new transportation stoppage declared by the guerrillas?

[Duarte] Well, that shows that they do not care for the people. Whom are they really hurting? The government? No. The Armed Forces? No. Who suffers? The people. This shows that they do not want peace, that what they want is to destabilize the country, create problems for the people, make the people suffer, create shortages, make prices soar. In sum, it is all part of a plan on the part of the guerrillas to make the people suffer. I am struggling, together with the government and all the ministers. in an effort to ease the people's suffering. However, the guerrillas insist on bringing more suffering to the people.

[Castillo] YSKL friends, you have just heard President Jose Napoleon Duarte's statement during an interview he granted to us after receiving the credentials of the new ambassador of Taiwan. President Duarte reiterated that the government has no objections to some of the guerrilla commanders returning to the country. Those commanders have announced that they will soon arrive here. He said: Yes, I agree that they should return to the country. Why? So that they can account for all their crimes. They should go to the police, and pay for all their crimes.

ACEVEDO ON REFUGEES, BORDER ISSUE, DIALOGUE

PA110247 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta by reporter Joel Burgos; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Burgos] The Honduran Government will ask the Salvadoran Government to expedite the negotiations for the voluntary repatriation of Salvadoran refugees. Honduran authorities have said that the talks have come to a standstill. In this regard, we interview Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta over the phone.

[Acevedo Peralta] I do not believe that Honduras should demand that anyone, much less we in this specific case, take immediate action regarding the refugee problem. You may recall that there is a tripartite mixed commission made up of the UN High Commission for Refugees, [UNHCR] El Salvador, and Honduras, which is in charge of the repatriation and of conducting all the pertinent procedures so that the repatriation is done according to the law. Therefore, I see no reason why Honduras should demand anything from us. The truth is that adopting that attitude is unnecessary. Everything is already regulated and coordinated so that Honduras, through the UNHCR and the commission, can convoke a meeting to that effect, whenever it deems it necessary.

[Burgos] We would also like to know what progress has been made for the resolution of the border dispute with Honduras.

[Acevedo Peralta] Regarding the commitments to coordinate the activities and actions before the International Court of Justice, everything is progressing well and expeditiously. We will have a third meeting here in San Salvador on 17-18 March. As I said, this will be the third meeting of the Commission of Territorial studies [Comision de Estudios Territoriales] which, according to the treaty, will be responsible for producing a joint agreement in which the two countries will agree to appear before The Hague International Court. That document will be ready in the next few days. The meeting will take place on the 17th and 18th of this month, and I do not believe any further meetings will be necessary to finalize this formal commitment on procedures that will enable the two countries to act based on specific norms agreed upon by both sides.

[Burgos] We would also like to know if there is any knowledge that an FDR delegation will arrive in our country to resume talks with the Salvadoran Government.

[Acevedo Peralta] President Duarte has proposed a parallel dialogue in Nicaragua, which is consonant with the principles maintained by the Contadora Group. You may recall that the Caraballeda document includes a call to the Central American countries to resume the efforts for national reconciliation. Nicaragua must follow this recommendation, which, I repeat, falls within the Contadora Group's intitiative, which Nicaragua promised to respect through the declaration of Guatemala. We are fulfilling those initiatives, those actions in favor of peace, as the Contadora Group describes them, and President Duarte's proposal must be understood in this sense as well. Simultaneous actions are necessary in order to advance. We have interpreted this in the Contadora Group's recommendations also, in the sense that actions must be carried out simultaneously. Hence, that is the reason for the president's proposal. Now, if the guerrilla groups are interested in making contacts here, we will have to meet with them and establish the norms for a new dialogue. This will happen, of course, as long as Nicaragua also complies with the commitments it has acquired with the Contadora Group.

OFFICIAL NOTES RESPONSES TO DUARTE PROPOSAL

PA102108 San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish 1230 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Deputy Communications Minister Roberto Viera has revealed the government's position in the face of the FDR-FMLN proposal on a practical operational plan to carry out the third phase of the dialogue for peace in El Salvador.

[Begin recording] In response to a proposal made by President Duarte last Tuesday regarding a simultaneous dialogue, we could examine the feedback received. The first came from Moscow by Commander Bayardo Arce, a Nicaraguan commander, who is accompanied by a FMLN delegation in Moscow. A first negative reply rejecting President Duarte's proposal came up immediately.

Yesterday, FDR leader Hector Oqueli also gave a negative reply, another rejection of the proposal. He argued that the Nicaraguan guerrillas or contras are different from the Salvadoran guerrillas. Oqueli said that the Nicaraguan contras are bad people, that they are financed by the CIA and the United States, that they are murderers. On the other hand, the Salvadoran guerrillas are good people, because they fight for the people. I think this concept is refutable from all viewpoints, because we cannot conceive of their mining areas in which there are large numbers of children and peasant youths who are mutilated and killed as a result of mines planted by Salvadoran guerrillas; we cannot say that this is a good thing, or that the kidnappings and murders that they have carried out are good things.

I definitely think that the problem of violence affects the entire world; those who chose the path of weapons are going against society. Regardless of whether it involves a capitalist or a socialist society, or any political or ideological inclination, the premise is that those who seek the path of weapons and violence are seeking to dehumanize society.

Today, FDR leader Ruben Zamora also said that he would send a proposal. I understand that this proposal will be delivered through Msgr Rivera y Damas who is the middleman.

However, the fact that they are saying that the problem of Nicaragua is that Nicaraguans have to hold a dialogue with the United States, they will talk with the guerrillas, should be noted. You might recall that before the first round of talks in La Palma, they gave that same response when President Duarte extended them an invitation. They said: No, we will talk with the United States, because Reagan is the boss in El Salvador, not President Duarte.

That is exactly what they are saying in Nicaragua now: We will talk with the United States; that is what they are saying. We could draw an analogous response to that statement. Knowing that Salvadoran guerrillas are in Moscow and others are in Havana now, we could say: Look, let us talk with the Cubans or with the Soviets, because everyone knows that the logistics and financial support of the Salvadoran guerrillas comes from those places.

However, we believe that the effort of the dialogue must be carried out internally here in El Salvador and Nicaragua. That is why the presidents of the Central American area, presidents who emerged from democratic elections in Central America, are supporting this idea.

Costa Rican President-elect Oscar Arias has extended his support to the proposal of President Duarte. He said that it is an excellent proposal to seek peace mechanisms for El Salvador.

In addition, Guatemalan President Cerezo proposed the establishment of a Central American parliament. Each country would elect is representative to ensure that there will be a Central American organization that will look after the interests of Central Americans in their quest for peace.

President Duarte' proposal for dialogue in El Salvador and Nicaragua is also within this framework; it aims to find mechanisms leading us to peace in the Central American region. I believe that President Duarte feels the same way; he wishes to seek, together with the other democratic presidents in Central America, a path of dialogue and peace for Central America. [end recording]

RIVERA Y DAMAS SAYS CHURCH 'PREPARED TO MEDIATE'

PA100348 Paris AFP in Spanish 2109 GMT 9 Mar 86

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The Salvadoran Catholic Church "is prepared to mediate" in a new dialogue between the guerrillas and President Jose Napoleon Duarte's government, it was stated today by San Salvador Archbishop Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas.

The prelate was pleased with President Duarte's proposal to renew the dialogue with the guerrillas if the Sandinist Government does likewise with the Nicaraguan rebels.

The archbishop said that this proposal "is another effort in favor of peace," and added that the most important thing for the Salvadorans is the dialogue between Duarte's government and the FMLN.

Nevertheless, Monsignor Rivera y Damas said it is necessary to hold some preliminary meetings to make a fruitful third round of talks possible.

The religious leader said he did not know when the rebel delegation would travel to El Salvador to make preparations for a peace dialogue, as announced by the clandestine station Radio Venceremos.

Referring to the results of an eventual meeting between the rebels and government representatives, Monsignor Rivera y Damas added: "We have always said that if the dialogues are going to prove effective, they must be held at three levels: national, regional, and geopolitical. However, as a church we must develop a national dialogue."

Referring to the appointment of Philip Habib as special U.S. envoy to Central America, the Salvadoran archbishop said this "means that the situation of the conflict has worsened, making it necessary to send a person with better abilities."

Denouncing the temporary arrest of four members of Doctors of the World by police, Monsignor Rivera y Damas said that he will contact the Salvadoran Government so that the humanitarian organization is allowed to continue working with the civilian population in the conflict areas.

The religious leader reported the death of 42 alleged guerrilla members and 16 soldiers in counterinsurgency operations carried out last week.

Archbishop Rivera y Damas also said that he will soon ask the Army and guerrilla groups to declare a cease-fire from 23-30 March, so that Salvadorans may celebrate the Holy Week festivities in peace.

SUSPECT IN U.S. CITIZEN'S MURDER DETAINED

PA101659 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 7 Mar 86 pp 2, 31

[Excerpt] Yesterday the third justice of the peace ordered the detention on remand of Carlos Alberto Romero Flores, who is involved in the death of Peter Stryker Haskal, a U.S. citizen.

At the end of the inquest, which concluded at 1300, Judge Rosario Boyd de Castro signed the arrest warrant stating there is sufficient evidence against the accused. This evidence was supplied by three key witnesses in this process.

Haskal was killed in the Modelo residential area on 15 February. In the case against Romero Flores, it was indicated that in his statement the suspect admitted to having fired a weapon at the location and time of the crime. In addition, he said he was in the company of the murdered individual at the place and on the date of his death. According to the record, Romero Flores made these remarks to Judge Rosario freely and spontaneously.

## GUATEMALA

COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE MISSING PERSONS CASES

PA081946 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] A mixed commission will be formed to investigate the cases of missing people. During a meeting held this afternoon between the Mutual Support Group [GAM] members and President Vinicio Cerezo, it was decided to form a commission to investigate the cases of missing people.

President Cerezo proposed the creation of a nongovernmental commission to include the Supreme Court, the various churches, the Red Cross, and delegates of international organizations. The GAM presented a counterproposal to establish a mixed commission that would also include representatives of the government and Congress. President Cerezo accepted the counterproposal. Progress in establishing the commission should be known by next week. GAM also proposed that the commission include trade union delegates, San Carlos University students, a journalist, and foreign personalities, such as Adolfo Perez Esquivel, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, and writer Ernesto Sabato. GAM said that the government must be included in the commission so that its responsibilities will not be evaded.

Vinicio Cerezo said that the investigative commission on missing people will be a legally established authority. When the commission is formed, the judiciary must grant it authority, through a process to begin now, the commission can begin to work as soon as possible. The investigative commission will be a legally established authority and will have every freedom and guarantee to undertake its investigations.

GAM insisted that the assassins of the people must be punished. GAM again asked President Cerezo for guarantees so that when the investigative commission ends its work, all those persons found to be involved in human rights violations will be prosecuted. GAM said that it is not a matter of revenge or vengeance but of the enforcement of the law and the Constitution without confrontations. President Cerezo replied that the judges in charge of imparting justice will be the ones who will deal with the accusations presented by interested individuals after the results of the investigations are issued.

GAM DISAPPOINTED AFTER DISCUSSION WITH CEREZO

PA102006 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] GAM members appeared very upset after their meeting yesterday afternoon with President Cerezo. Their annoyance began when the president told them that his mission is not to pass judgment on anyone. He said this when the GAM members told him that the persons responsible for having thousands of persons arrested and missing should be punished.

The meeting became more bitter because of the shameful meeting on the previous Friday when, according to some observers, GAM insulted President Cerezo. GAM explained to Cerezo that it has never insulted the president, but only stated the truth: While it is true that the current president is not responsible for illegal arrests, he is the person responsible for carrying out justice and correcting past errors.

President Cerezo told the GAM delegation that they are masochists and sadists, which fueled the already heated relations. The members of GAM wanted to tell Cerezo about the sad events that separated them from their loved ones.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the relatives of missing persons stated their general dissatisfaction with the president and their lack of trust that justice will be done, as President Cerezo had once promised.

President Cerezo told the women of GAM that Congress is the only state branch that has the authority to abolish the political amnesty decreed by the de facto government of General Mejia Victores. The women had insisted that such a decree is unconstitutional and that it should be abolished immediately since it favors the sector that has most punished the Guatemalan people: the Army. The GAM women said that they are struggling for respect for the defenseless civilian population and that they are not involved with the guerrillas, as it has been intimated in the past.

REBELS, ARMY CLASH IN PETEN DEPARTMENT

PA071855 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] It has been reported that a clash occurred between the Army and guerrillas in Peten Department, and that an undetermined number of people were wounded. A subversive commando group seized Palestina village, La Libertad municipality. The Army was deployed to the area. The soldiers were received with bullets. They returned the fire and both sides suffered casualties.

## HONDURAS

WEINBERGER STATEMENT ON CONTRAS VIEWED

PA071801 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Station commentary: "Honduras' Dignity Is in the Mouth of the Defense Secretary of the United States"]

[Text] Honduras' dignity has been going from mouth to mouth since Caspar Weinberger said that Honduras will continue serving as a base for Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary forces for the purpose of overthrowing the Sandinist regime of Managua.

The presence of the counterrevolutionaries in Honduras is undeniable now as the presence of the Sandinists was in the past. The only difference is that the Sandinist guerrillas functioned against the will of the Hondurans and had neither direct nor indirect support from the Honduran authorities.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has taken upon himself the task of spreading to the four corners of the world, through a U.S. committee and the entire publicity means of the United States, that Honduras has served as a base for the counterrevolutionaries to receive all sorts of supplies. We have to point out that the contras do not have, either, Honduran approval to operate as they please in our territory.

While we acknowledge they have the right to struggle to overthrow their country's regime, this right does not include the right to commit abuses such as taking possession of tilled land and plantations in the border areas.

In view of this rejection by the people, the Honduran authorities -- the previous authorities first, and now the current authorities -- have always been careful to issue denials every time the North Americans have proclaimed our complicity with the counterrevolutionaries. But now this denial has not only been put in doubt by important U.S. officials, there is now a situation in which when the Honduran authorities deny this support, they are lying to their people, for obvious reasons.

Caspar Weinberger, the number one man in the U.S. Pentagon, has said in plain language in front of a U.S. special committee that Honduras and its government have been making formal contributions to the struggle of the counterrevolutionaries by supporting the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN], and, more specifically, by lending the territory of Honduras so that the anti-Sandinists may resupply themselves.

As expected, the Office of the Foreign Secretary has issued a half-page bulletin trying to refute the number one man of the Pentagon with a feeble allegation that does not evade the childish course that has been used in the past. However, the Honduran people have learned to attach more seriousness to what is said in Washington than what is said by our rulers.

Let us see why. Three months prior to the installation of the Regional Military Training Center, the Pentagon announced with much noise and praise that a military training fort that would have all the characteristics of a U.S. base was about to be installed in Trujillo, on the northern coast of Honduras.

The announcement came as a shock because the Honduran Congress had not even heard of a project in that regard, in spite of the fact that the Hondoran Constitution demands that the National Congress is the only branch that has the authority to discuss and approve the presence of foreign military forces in our territory.

The Honduran Congress became aware of the situation when the training center was already installed in Trujillo. The Honduran congressmen did not discuss the installation of the center prior to its actual installation. What took place afterward was a forced procedure. This was done because of the power of Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, who at that time was the top Honduran military chief and the power behind the throne.

But Washington had announced the situation, and they were telling the truth. The North Americans have an open mind and don't hide this type of activity from their people. They were as clear then as Caspar Weinberger is clear now and as U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was 3 days ago.

Shultz said that there are enough reasons to believe that with the new Honduran Government, the contras will have more room to operate from Honduran territory.

The image of the Honduran president has been trampled on because only 1 day after his visit to Washington, the North Americans said that Azcona had offered them support for the counterrevolutionaries so that the counterrevolution could win. We don't know if the North Americans are using the confrontation technique, making the Nicaraguans view the Hondurans as enemies, feeding ill feelings that could lead Honduras and Nicaragua to a war that would have unforseen results.

Anyhow, it is all the same. In the eyes of the world, Honduras and its rulers are liars who deny facts. Mr Weinberger has said that Honduras supports the counterrevolutionaries. This statement by the number one man in the Pentagon will not be erased by a little bulletin from the Foreign Secretary's Office.

More convincing and valid arguments will be needed to tell the world that Mr Weinberger has taxed us with complicity because that gringo is crazy. The most difficult problem for the Honduran Government, though, is how to explain to the thousands of Hondurans who live along the border that their government, the Tegucigalpa government, supports groups that are viewed as responsible for damaging the Honduran economy by destroying coffee and other plantations, killing cattle, and stealing domestic fowl in that area. How can we explain to our people from the border area that the Honduran Government is supporting such individuals?

It is necessary for Azcona and his public relations apparatus to clear up this statement by Weinberger. Weinberger said that there are enough reasons to believe that with the new Honduran Government, things are now changing in favor of the anti-Sandinist gurerrillas. Mr Weinberger's statement misrepresents the Honduran president and government because it leads to the belief that during his most recent trip to Washington President Azcona offered to help the anti-Sandinist guerrillas. The statement by the number one man in the U.S. Pentagon has left our government on poor footing domestically and abroad. The government is being viewed as a liar who lies to its own people and hides the fact that it is cooperating with guerrilla groups instead of banning them, as the Constitution demands. While the guerrillas have the right to struggle against the totalitarian regime that dominates their country, they must do it there, in their territory.

What Caspar Weinberger said could be empty words. However, the fact that this official has categorically stated that Honduras is firmly on the side of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution is enough for many countries to believe that this is what the Honduran Government does and thinks. Now it is up to the regime of President Azcona to act gently but firmly and to deny convincingly, not queasily, whether what Weinberger has said is true. Let facts be aired, and let the government not tell half-truths.

## COMMITTEE REJECTS U.S. CONTRA AID REQUEST

PA101732 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2323 GMT 8 Mar 86

[By German Reyes]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Committee of Relatives of Missing Prisoners in Honduras today condemned the "$100 million in humanitarian aid requested by the U.S. Government for Nicaraguan "counterrevolutionaries." [quotation marks as received]

The $100 million that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is requesting "will serve to provoke a holocaust in our region," said members of this committee during a peaceful demonstration staged in downtown Tegucigalpa.

Relatives of missing people in Honduras stage a demonstration every Friday in front of the "La Merced" Catholic church, a short 100 meters from the Presidential Palace in Tegucigalpa.

In a communique issued today, they also noted that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz "unmasked Honduran authorities who deny that there is a contra presence in the country."

The demonstrators said that their presence at "La Merced" plaza was in response to the situation that "100 Honduran families, victims of the application of the national security doctrine, are enduring." Their opposition to Reagan's request to the U.S. Congress is due to "reasons of national dignity and a result of all of the damages caused by the contras, of whom we are victims," the communique added. This committee also accused anti-Sandinist rebels of "being the organizers of the first paramilitary bands in Honduras and of sharing responsibility in the disappearances of political figures and in political murders."

The demonstrators added that Honduran officials have been "ridiculously and cynically" denying the presence of Nicaraguan "counterrevolutionaries" in the country. They also criticized the recent report issued by the U.S. State Department on human rights in Honduras. They said that this document is contradictory because it first states that the observance of these rights improved, but then it goes on to report tortures and the existence of "a deficient judicial branch" in this Central American nation.

"But this does not matter in the justification of the economic support that Washington is giving in exchange for permitting the violation of national sovereignty with the presence of marines and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries," the communique stressed.

They also accused Honduran Congress President Carlos Montoya of wanting to evade his responsibility and a "serious and thorough" investigation into the case of missing people in Honduras.

Montoya has said that this problem "does not correspond" [no corresponde] to the administration that assumed power on 27 January.

Regarding the current Armed Forces commander, General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, they said that he is an officer of "the same line" as former military commander Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, who is now a forced resident of Miami. The communique issued by the relatives of missing prisoners in Honduras also accused Lieutenant Marco Tulio Regalado Hernandez, the brother of the military commander, of being "a member of paramilitary bands and a great torturer."

## DIPLOMATIC CORPS CUTS DUE TO BUDGET ANNOUNCED

PA090311 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 7 Mar 86 p 38

[Text] About 20 diplomats have been dismissed from the foreign service because they were a heavy burden to the state treasury, EL HERALDO learned yesterday at the government palace. Most of the diplomats were attaches at various embassies and consulates and had been appointed during Roberto Suazo Cordova's administration.

Many of them are the children of officials and deputies who were influential in the previous regime and who had been sent abroad to study at the government's expense, and they did nothing to improve the diplomatic corps or the country's image abroad.

The reorganization of the foreign service is being studied by President Jose Azcona Hoyo himself, who is waiting for the Liberal and National Parties to present their suggested names for appointments.

It was learned that one of the first ambassadors to leave his post will be the representative accredited to Spain, Ivan Romero Martinez, who will be replaced by a member of the National Party proposed by the Central Committee chaired by Rafael Leonardo Callejas.

Likewise, it was learned that the following ambassadors will remain at their posts: Ambassador to the United States Jack Agurcia, Ambassador to Canada Alejandro Flores, and Ambassador to Mexico Ricardo Pineda Milla.

NICARAGUAN ARMY REPORTEDLY MINING BORDER AREA

PA060309 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 6 Mar 86 p 4

[Text] Last week two Hondurans lost their legs when they stepped on a mine in Buena Vista, located in the eastern recovered [recuperada] area.

The injured persons are receiving medical attention at a health center. Their names are Agustin Mendoza and Oscar Hernandez. They had come from Las Troques searching for some cattle. When they got to Buena Vista, they saw that the area's evangelical chapel had been forced open. They decided to enter to find out what had happened. However, as they stepped inside the chapel, the mine went off.

The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] has made incursions into that zone. The EPS is placing mines all over the border. These mines have killed several Hondurans.

The incident has spread alarm among the zone's residents. Some who were planning to return are afraid they will find that their homes have been mined.

PRESIDENT APPOINTS SEVERAL DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNORS

PA090014 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 7 Mar 86 p 4

[Text] The political pact signed by the movements led by Jose Azcona Hoyo and Rafael Leonardo Callejas continues in force as shown by an agreement announced yesterday stating that six members of the National Party had been appointed governors. President Azcona Hoyo had offered the main opposition leader to appoint National Party members as governors in the departments where Callejas had won, a promise fulfilled yesterday when the appointments were announced.

The new governors are: Salvador Villanueva in Intibuca, Noe Leopoldo Cruz in Copan, Rafael Alonso Izaguirre in Valle, Alvaro Mejia Allen in Gracias a Dios, Earl Marguin MacNab Evans in Islas de la Bahia, and Jaime Daniel Hernandez Cruz in Lempira.

Only one governor has not been appointed in departments where the National Party won, in Choluteca.

The same pact holds true for the diplomatic corps, where National Party representatives will also be appointed from a list of candidates proposed by party top leader Rafael Leonardo Callejas.

This means that the political pact between Azona and Callejas continues to be carried out and has not failed, as some dissidents of the Liberal Party have said.

## NICARAGUA

### BORGE: REAGAN SEEKS TO 'BLACKMAIL' CONGRESS

PA102127 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] Commander of the Revolution and Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez said in Brazil: The U.S. Administration is inventing all kinds of hoaxes to justify its aggressive actions against Nicaragua before its people.

Commander Borge, who is visiting Brazil, pointed out that the campaign against the Sandinist revolution being carried out in the United States is needed by the Reagan administration in order to convince Congress to approve $100 million in aid for the contras.

He added that certain Reagan administration officials began gross blackmail to psychologically influence the Congress. All this shows that current U.S. leaders are not willing to recognize the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination and are directly challenging international public opinion, the revolutionary leader concluded.

### BARRICADA EDITORIAL VIEWS U.S. CONTRA AID

PA110034 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Mar 86 p 2

[Editorial: "The Image of Defeat Looms in Washington's Comedy"]

[Text] The fact that the most important officials of the world's most developed capitalist power have become immersed in a tense dispute on how to attack a small state or not to attack it, but to demand from it a course of action that harms its sovereign rights, itself constitutes a victory of the Nicaraguan people, regardless of the results of the dispute. That Nicaraguan victory begins when it is pointed out before world opinion that every discussion of Nicaraguan domestic affairs by a foreign power violates international law.

Consequently, the U.S. Government stands against all juridical and moral law by its discussion, in the U.S. Congress, of the financing of mercenary groups to attack a foreign nation with which the United States keeps diplomatic relations, as if to make the violation more evident. For this reason, all that is discussed and approved in the Congress must have immoral and violating roots in imperialist arrogance.

No elaborate arguments will be able to erase this stain from the U.S. Administration before international opinion and history. As for Nicaragua, reason will continue to be on our side, regardless of what may happen. We are the victims of an imperialist aggression and this fact will not be altered by exercises, propaganda campaigns, or the complicity of traitorous Nicaraguans.

This situation will remain unchanged even if -- as LA PRENSA gladly reports -- [Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs] Abrams and other Yankee officials may say that Contadora and the rest of the world are mistaken, even if the mercenaries are painted in pink hues and although instead of regretting their defeat, they were to sing victory.

Aggression, however, will not be stopped for this either, nor will Reagan and his officials stop seeking arguments to justify their mercenaries' salaries, although they cannot avoid falling into contradictions and being exposed before the world. In addition to not finding valid reasons to openly intervene in the domestic affairs of a sovereign state, one of the major weakenesses of the Reagan stance is the evaluation of the role of the mercenaries before his own fellow citizens and the Congress.

Once the doubts regarding the overvaluation of the counterrevolutionary forces as fighters "for freedom" and "democracy" are dispelled, how do they explain that such forces do not get the people's support in Nicaragua even though they have this "noble mission" to fulfill and, in addition, admit that these forces are being militarily defeated?

Who can believe in the future success of mercenary bands that declare themselves lost if they are deprived of U.S. aid?

Is it not a fact that the U.S. state apparatus' major concern is the "question" of Nicaragua, that the Yankee government has turned its policy toward this country into a question of "honor" to the extent that it has disrespected all norms of international coexistence, and that it admits the contras' military inability, sufficient to deny any and all requests for more money?

The imperialists' logic seems to deny this with their actions and, in their stubbornness, they fall into greater contradictions and ridicule their mercenaries. As part of the anti-Nicaraguan crusade, all types of mercenaries were summoned to the United States to impress representatives and senators. Among those summoned was Enrique Bermudez, Somozist military leader of the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Force, who, sponsored by the "Heritage Foundation" -- a far-rightist Reaganite organization -- even shed some tears in a "workshop."

In total despair and shameless submission to the Yankees' will, Bermudez said: "If we are not clearly supported by the United States, we cannot win the war." He complemented his defeat with a revealing idea.

"The people will not commit themselves against the Sandinists unless they see a well-armed resistance."

If Bermudez, Calero, Robelo, and Cruz are manipulated on stage to impress representatives and senators with this type of argument, this means that Reagan's governing team regards them as very stupid or that all the officials are really stupid. It takes a stupid person to suppose that nobody could ponder this argument or to believe that others are stupid enough not to wonder about many things.

For instance, if they are not "backed by the United States," they cannot win the war.... Who, then, has been supporting them since they were born as a mercenary force? Is this perhaps the first time that they get U.S. money? Why do they say that they have been defeated after they received $27 million and got a similar amount indirectly? Is it really money that they lack?

Involuntarily, guard Bermudez answered this. They do not enjoy the slightest trust or the slightest support of the Nicaraguan people.

Of course, the Somozist leader of the mercenaries did not say so clearly, but he implied it when he asserted that "the people will not commit themselves against the Sandinists unless they see a well-armed resistance."

This, however, elicits many more questions. When did the people have to see the FSLN's weapons to get involved in the revolutionary struggle against the Somozist dictatorship?

Was the FSLN at any time as well armed as the counterrevolutionaries have been? If it was, was this what spurred the people in the insurrection?

Neither of the two. Neither had the quantity or quality of weapons that the United States has delivered to its mercenaries, nor did the people wait to see the weapons to rush to depose the dictatorship.

Is it necessary, then, to say which reasons led the people to fight almost unarmed? Have they wondered why the people do not do likewise now but, quite the contrary, fight the mercenaries and defeat them?

Reagan, his fascist-like team, and some senators and representatives perhaps are not interested in wondering about this, and it would not be because they are stupid, unless we agree to describe the imperialist phenomenon like this.

The Armed Mercenaries, the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, LA PRENSA, and some rightist parties might not want to wonder about this, and it would not be because they are stupid. For many years, the people have been familiar with their stance. They describe it as that of turncoats.

Consequently, none of the enemies of the revolution and Nicaragua could ask himself these questions and then answer himself in honesty. It would be regrettable for them not to do it. But we will not wait to see whether they do it or not. All our work, preparations for defense, and willingness to sacrifice will be the most important guarantee that we will defeat the mercenaries as we have been doing so far, regardless of their masters' decisions.

After all, only a "solution" of compromise among political factions in the U.S. Congress can be expected from the domestic contradictions and struggles in the United States, if stupidity does not prevail. Would this suffice for the mercenaries' actions to stop? Evidently, no. As it already happened in the recent past with the $27 million, any cover will be supplied, or perhaps the very same "humanitarian" label of the past, but the aggression will continue.

Our patriotic will to struggle, the international solidarity of peoples and governments with common sense, and the political willingness to continue seeking negotiation without offensive terms. [sentence as published]. We do not exclude Contadora and its Support Group from this effort, and we do not have to insist why. In order to understand it, suffice it to learn the opinion of Reagan's mercenaries about Contadora. Without having to go too deep, it is the empire's voice.

When guard Bermudez was asked about the peace efforts of the eight Latin American states, he answered: (Contadora) "is a dead man that refuses to die."

Really, Bermudez only described his mercenary organization.

## CASTRO CONCLUDES MOSCOW VISIT, ARRIVES IN PYONGYANG

### Tours Moscow

FL071552 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1502 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, who is in Moscow attending the recently concluded 27th CPSU Congress, toured Moscow today. Castro placed a floral wreath at the new Lenin monument in October Plaza. He contemplated and admired the new monument.

During his tour through the streets of Moscow, Castro visited the Architectural and Planning Directorate, where he received a detailed explanation on the reconstruction of that historic site. While passing through the pedestrian street Arbat in Moscow, Castro spoke with many Soviet citizens, who surrounded him and gave him warm greetings.

### Kim Il-song, Crowds Greet Castro

FL081540 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1502 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] Upon arriving in the DPRK, Cuba's Commander in Chief Fidel Castro received a grandiose and powerful greeting from the Pyongyang population. After the official ceremony at the airport, where Castro embraced Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, Castro was greeted by thousands of people congregated at the airport.

Shortly afterward at least 1 million people of all ages cheered Cuba's highest leader from Pyongyang streets and avenues. Men, women, and children, waving Cuban and DPRK flags and holding multicolored flowers, shouted "viva!" to Castro and Kim Il-song. They also held signs saying "welcome" and sang hymns and songs. The large welcome grew to huge proportions when the open car in which Castro and Kim Il-song traveled approached the center of the DPRK capital.

In front the 8 February House of Culture, a multitude of women dressed in fine and brightly colored outfits staged a gigantic display and shouted "Cuba, yes! Yankees, no! Viva Fidel! Viva Cuba!"

Constantly surrounded by citizens, the cars of the official caravan arrived in front of hundreds of pioneers, one of whom welcomed Cuba's commander in chief in perfect Spanish.

Armed Forces representatives later joined their voices in greeting Castro. During the entire tour, which took more than 1 hour, the leaders were able to appreciate choreographies, a grand children's band that played the 26 July March, and other pleasant surprises.

### Meeting With Kim Il-song

FL081602 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1504 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] At the official residence where Cuba's Commander in Chief Fidel Castro will stay in Pyongyang, Castro has met with Kim Il-song. The two leaders were accompanied by officials from Cuba and the DPRK. Accompanying the DPRK's highest leader were Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Central Committee, and other high party and state leaders.

Accompanying Castro to Pyongyang were Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Jorge Risquet, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo; Division General Senen Casas, alternate Politburo member; and Lionel Soto, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee. The Cuban delegation arrived in the DPRK today after participating inthe 27th CPSU Congress in Moscow.

Castro Speaks at Banquet

FL082020 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro said today that he is visiting the DPRK to pay tribute to a people who resisted the most barbaric U.S. imperialist aggression and who have for more than 30 years held high the banners of revolution and socialism. Castro spoke during a banquet offered in his honor by DPRK President Kim Il-song.

Everything seems to distance the DPRK from Cuba; we are separated by thousands of kilometers, but we are profoundly close. What unites us is our common dreams and the closeness of the common enemy, the commander in chief stressed. He said that visiting the DPRK and meeting Kim Il-song were firm goals he had established long ago. He then said that he waited for an opportunity to visit during the tense struggle Cuba has experienced for many years.

During his speech Castro said he really had no words to describe the sentiments he felt upon arriving in Pyongyang, where he received a warm and extraordinary welcome from the people. I do not come to receive praise. I come to praise the Korean people and their glorious and combative history, Castro said. He then expressed his admiration and solidarity with that Asian nation.

The heroic efforts of the Korean people are, without a doubt, one of the greatest revolutionary achievements of our era and a permanent source of inspiration for combatants everywhere, Castro said. The commander in chief said that their struggle unites them with the Cuban people, which has made it possible for the two countries to develop cooperation agreements. The just position of the DPRK party, peoples, and government in favor of peaceful reunification of the country and their firm attitude toward imperialistic military maneuvers and provocations have always been assured of Cuba's vigorous and firm solidarity, said Castro. He added: We are living in difficult times, in which it is important to strengthen, as never before, unity in action between all forces struggling for peace and progress of the peoples.

Castro said that the irresponsible policy of confrontation by force practiced by the United States has increased the danger of a devastating war from which the world will never be able to recover. Only the most energetic determination for resistance and the unwavering decision of not submitting to blackmail will be able to frustrate such reactionary intentions, Castro added.

Our era is experiencing the most unpayable economic looting and exploitation of the peoples, especially those of the Third World, Castro said at the banquet in his honor. The chief of the Cuban revolution reiterated that the unpayable foreign debt is associated during our time with dumping, unequal trade, and protectionism that deprives Third World countries of the most elemental hopes. The decisive battle for peace results in the battle of rejecting the overwhelming foreign debt, Castro said. The first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba stressed the importance of establishing a new international economic order as a way out of the current situation facing developing countries.

The conversations with Kim Il-song will give new strength to friendship, cooperation, and solidarity between the parties, states, and peoples of Cuba and the DPRK, Castro said. The Cuban leader said that when peoples can create ties such as the ones that unite Korea and Cuba, which are geographically so far apart, there is no doubt whatsoever that the victory will belong to socialism.

To conclude, Castro asked permission to repeat the saying: Fatherland or death, we will win!, which has accompanied the Cuban people for so many years. Finally, Castro expressed his wishes for a long life and excellent health for Kim Il-song so that he can continue enriching revolutionary socialist knowledge with his experiences.

Decorates Kim Il-song

FL101918 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 1800 GMT on 10 March carries recorded video coverage of Fidel Castro decorating DPRK President Kim Il-song with the Order of Jose Marti. Staff announcer Manolo Ortega explains that Commander in Chief Fidel Castro this afternoon decorated DPRK President Kim Il-song with the National Order of Jose Marti in a simple, solemn ceremony. The camera provides close-ups of the two presidents as Castro pins the decoration on Kim Il-song's jacket and then hugs him.

Coverage of Castro's visit to Pyongyang continues with the announcer's explanation over video that the conversations between Castro and Kim Il-song continued today. Castro and Kim Il-song are shown briefly talking about the climate of Havana. Castro explains that it is winter now and that northern winds can make the temperature drop to 15 degrees, but that the climate "is more benign than here or in the USSR."

The announcer provides information on the People's Studies Palace, the largest installation of its kind in North Korea. Castro is shown arriving at this palace to the chant of "Cuba, si; Yankees no." Once inside the palace, Castro admires the stone columns and asks if they are each made of a single piece of stone; he is assured that each is made of a single block of stone.

The announcer then describes Castro's inspection of books by Cuban authors, including two volumes of his own speeches. Castro flips pages and explains that the photographs are of the Sierra Maestra campaign and that they had little to eat. Picking up the volumes of his speeches, Castro explains that one contains his 1979 speech to the United Nations on the foreign debt, that the foreign debt should be cancelled and has grown since 1979 from $300 billion to more than $1 trillion. Coverage of Castro's activities ends with footage of children singing and dancing.

Conversations Continue

FL101240 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] The conversations between Presidents Fidel Castro and Kim Il-song are continuing today in Pyongyang, while other members of the Cuban delegation visit educational centers and sites of historical interest in the DPRK. The Cuban delegation was moved by the display of affection of 800 Korean children from the (Chong Won) kindergarten, in Pyongyang, who also put on a little artistic show for the delegation.

## ACLM LEADER SCOFFS AT LIBYAN CONNECTION CLAIM

FL101438 Bridgetown CANA in English 2114 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 8 CANA -- Leader of the leftwing Antigua-Caribbean Liberation Movement (ACLM) Tim Hector has scoffed at allegations of clandestine relations with Libya, as suggested in a document circulated by the United States to right and centre-right ruling parties in the Caribbean Community.

Commenting on the issue in his party's weekly newspaper, OUTLET, the ACLM leader accused the government of Prime Minister Vere Bird and the ruling Antigua Labour Party (ALP) newspaper, HERALD, of using alleged ACLM-Libya connections to take the heat off official corruption and incompetence in the twin-island state of Antigua and Barbuda.

Along with Hector's editorial comment, headlined "What Libyan Connection?" OUTLET featured a flashback photograph from its edition of July 23, 1982, in which the ACLM's leader is seen in discussions with Libya's Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi.

According to the report in OUTLET neither Hector nor the ACLM has ever attempted to hide the fact of two visits to Libya paid by Hector, first in July 1982 to attend an International Congress of Third World Countries, and later, in April 1983, to attend a conference involving some 1,500 scholars and thinkers from around the world....

The ACLM was among a dozen opposition political parties in fight Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries linked with alleged Libya-connected subversive activities, according to the 11-page document American documents Libyan activities in Central America and the Caribbean.

## BARBADOS

## STATISTICAL SERVICE REPORTS TRADE DEFICIT IN 1985

FL101646 Bridgetown CANA in English 2115 GMT 9 Mar 86

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 9, CANA -- Barbados today reported an overall visible trade deficit of 348 million dollars (one BDS dollar; 50 U.S. cents) for the first nine months of 1985. Figures released by the Barbados Statistical Service also showed a January-September 1985 deficit with the island's Caribbean Community (Caricom) at 19 million dollars. Total imports from Caricom were valued at 136 million dollars and total exports to Caricom at 117 million dollars. The domestic component of total exports was 50 million dollars against the 117 million dollars worth of goods the island bought from its Caricom neighbours the previous year. Domestic exports to Caricom last year declined by 24 million dollars from the 74 mil of January-September 1984. Imports from caricom and other countries were valued at 885 million dollars, representing a decline of 110 million dollars on the January-September figure of 995 million dollars. Domestic exports accounted for 376 million dollars, representing a decline of 81 million dollars when compared with 457 dollars for January to September in 1984.

Machinery, mineral fuels, manufactured goods, and food and live animals were the major imports for the January to September period last year.

The government department said machinery accounted for 284 million dollars, mineral fuels 155 million dollars, manufactured goods 119 million dollars, and food and live animals 109 million dollars.

Exports from Barbados to its main regional trading partner -- Trinidad and Tobago -- declined by 27 million dollars from 49.7 million in 1984 to 22.7 million last year, while Barbados imports rose from 87.5 million dollars to 92.6 million.

Exports to Jamaica dropped from 6.7 million dollars in 1984 to six million dollars last year and imports rose from 16.2 million dollars to 30.9 million.

## BAHAMAS

### REVENUE TASK FORCE APPOINTED TO MONITOR FUNDS

FL071902 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] In the 1986 communications with parliament, the prime minister and the minister of finance foreshadowed the establishment of a special revenue task force to monitor and investigate the collection of government revenues here in the Bahamas.

A government release says the revenue task force has been appointed and has already commenced operations to carry out its mandate from the prime minister and minister of finance. The appointees to the revenue task force and Financial Secretary Mrs (Catherine E. Isaacs), Permanent Secretary Mr James H. Smith, Secretary for Revenue Mr J. Edison (Delaveaux), Treasurer Mr Garnet (Lowe), Acting Auditor General Mr Franklin [name indistinct], and Assistant Legal Council Miss [name indistinct].

The task force has been advised by Mr (A.C. Ferrari) the International Monetary Fund fiscal advisor to the Ministry of Finance and supported by a specially selected staff of senior public officers from various ministries and departments.

## HAITI

### SPORADIC STRIKES 'WORRY' NEW GOVERNMENT

PA081300 Paris AFP in Spanish 0017 GMT 8 Mar 86

[By Dominique Levanti]

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 7 Mar (AFP) -- The sporadic strikes that have been adversely affecting the public and private sector in Haiti for several days are beginning to worry the new Haitian Government, which must face a critical economic situation.

Today several hundred employees fromthe Haiti State Telecommunications Company went on strike, consequently disrupting telephone communications with other countries for the first time since President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier was overthrown. Domestic communications were also adversely affected because the strike was extended to regional offices in the rest of the country. The employees are demanding a wage increase, improved working conditions, and the dismissal of an unpopular supervisor.

Moreover, the 460 workers from the state company in charge of the distribution of flour in Haiti began their 4th day on strike for higher wages.

Meanwhile, customs workers in Port-au-Prince and at the capital's international airport began their 2d day on strike for the same reasons.

In the private industry sector, several work stoppages for wage increases took place today.

A spokesman for the Association of Haitian Industries (ADIH), one of the major business organizations that once took a stand against Duvalier, told AFP that the Port-au-Prince industrial sector must be protected. That sector, which is made up of some 200 subcontracting firms that are presently providing jobs, is very fragile because of Jamaican, Dominican, and Central American competition, the ADIH spokesman said.

The business organization prefers a reduction in the cost of living to a wage increase, which would cause an increase in prices and would start an inflationary process.

The president of the Haitian Workers Autonomous Labor Union, a Christian Democratic labor union that was banned under Duvalier's dictatorship, told AFP that its organization wished that the National Government Council "would be more concerned about the workers' conditions and demands in order to avoid strikes."

Fortune, who on last Wednesday returned to Haiti after 22 years of exile in Venezuela, said: "We are aware that the country was destroyed by the dictatorship." "We want to talk with everyone, with the government as well as with the employers," he added.

Meanwhile, the government expressed its concern over the "untimely strikes" which will cause "a decline in production, a massive loss of jobs, and the flight of capital to the detriment of the national economy." The government asked the workers to use the legal means of conciliation and emphasized "the need to return to tranquillity and to functioning enterprises."

Bus drivers from the southern part of the capital announced a strike for next Monday if the price of fuel is not lowered. Observers believe that this strike is an important test of the social and economic credibility of the new government, which until now has refused to use force against the strikers.

## JAMAICA

### REPORTAGE ON DOCTORS' STRIKE, STUDENT PROTESTS

#### Seaga Addresses Nation

FL110118 Bridgetown CANA in English 2039 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 10, CANA -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga, under pressure on the industrial front, urged junior doctors and students last night to end their protest action. Seaga hinted that the doctors, now on a work-to-rule protesting a pay award by the Industrial Disputes Tribunal (IDT), might be called before the courts for breaking the essential services law. He said in a radio and television address that Jamaican students at the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the College of Arts Science and Technology (CAST), angry over the reintroduction of tuition fees, should return to classes.

The doctors ban of shift work followed a 24-hour strike Friday, has seriously affected hospitals and health centers. The industrial action was sparked by the decision of the IDT to reduce a salary award.

Seaga, whose administration was blamed for the change, called for the resignations of two members of the IDT panel who caused the embarassment, so that confidence in the tribunal could be restored. Government lawyers were before a judge today seeking an injunction restraining the doctors, under a recent amendment to the labour laws, from continuing their industrial action.

Seaga charged that some protesting students were acting out of political motives and selfishness. His remarks further angered students and gates at the UWI and cast campuses were blocked, leading to another day of class boycotts which have been on-and-off since the new policy was announced last month.

The junior doctors issue flared up last week when the same two members of the tribunal -- the government-appointed Chairman Len Tomlinson, and employer's representative Chester Burgess -- who had in January handed down a majority decision giving the doctors a 12.5 per cent increase in each year of two-year contract reversed themselves on the governments demand for a clarification. They took 2.5 per cent off the second year amount.

The workers representative on the panel, Jenifer Muirhead, had refused to sign the original award and the later clarification, both of which fell far short of the doctors demands. The government had gone back to the tribunal on the basis that it had made an award higher than the administration had recommended but yet had said it could not do so in the national interest. The IDT report said that an error had been made.

Seaga said in his radio and television broadcast that the two IDT members in their conduct had embarassed everyone. He was sure that they agreed that their continued membership of the IDT would continue to embarass and contribute to the delay in a restoration of full confidence in the tribunal. He also called on five major trade unions who said they would boycott the tribunal to reconsider their position, reminding that the law now made it possible for the IDT to hear matters with one party to the dispute absent. The sixth big union, the government-aligned Bustmante Industrial Trade Union (BITU) has not joined the boycott. Seaga reminded that the medical services were classified an essential service in which any industrial action, whether by strike, stoppage or work-to-rule is illegal. The junior doctors ought to think carefully of their options and consequences of whichever course they choose to take, Seaga said. He noted that they would do or continue the industrial action which is illegal.

It cannot be right for the junior doctors to be attempting to intimidate the court and hold the nation health services to ransom while other options remain open, Seaga declared. He said that loss of life and human suffering could result from their actions.

Seaga told the students at the UWI and CAST, who will have to pay between four and 30 per cent of their tuition cost, that the country could not longer afford free education. The payment will amount to between 1900 and 1600 dollars a year, plus the cost of books, living expenses, and other incidentals that students now meet. But the government has said that enough loans will be provided for students, once they have the qualifications to get higher education.

Seaga said the boycotts of classes at the UWI and CAST and the closing down of the institutions were being instigated by some to foment the kind of instability which could so damage the country's image that it prejudices the performance of tourism this year. This is not self interest; this is selfishness.

He urged a return to classes, warning that any other course would lead to the withdrawal of his recent offer at a meeting with students to set up a task force to recommend ways of alleviating hardships faced by many students as well as working out the softest payback terms for the education loans.

Opposition Peoples National Party (PNP) leader Michael Manley, who abolished fee-paying education in 1973, last night told a huge rally that he would reverse Seaga's decision if he regained power.

## Police Disperse Students

FL102126 Bridgetown CANA in English 2111 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 10, CANA -- Police today used teargas and batons and fired shots in the air to disperse about 200 Jamaican students protesting the re-introduction of fee-paying education, eyewitnesses said.

The students from the University of the West Indies and the College of Arts Science and Technology (CAST) had blocked a road outside CAST, They said. At least two youths were slightly injured and a dozen others detained. Those detained were being held in a police van at the site, including the President of the Guild of Undergraduates at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies Lawrence Jackson.

The students, angry that government plans to charge tuition fees for both institutions from the start of the next academic year, have been sporadically boycotting lectures for the past few weeks. No boycotts were planned for today, but students decided to block gates at both institutions after a radio and television speech last night by Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

Seaga said some students were using the issue for political motives, hoping to disrupt tourism, key industry. Eyewitnesses said students had converged outside the CAST gates and later put debris in the road, snarling traffic. They also sat in the road chanting civil rights songs. Police initially threw mace into the crowd but these were thrown back.

Reinforcements from the crack mobile reserve unit later arrived, fired teargas and shots into the air then waded into the crowd scattering protesters and passers-by. The roads were cleared but not the gates at CAST, the witnesses said. The police also fired teargas into the CAST compound.

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES FUEL SHORTAGE MEASURES

FL072154 Bridgetown CANA in English 2142 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, March 7, CANA -- Guyana has publicly acknowledged that an acute fuel shortage gripping the country stems from the countrys inability to pay Trinidad and Tobago in hard currency for the usual quantity of supplies.

The unavailability of adequate foreign exchange was the fundamental problem, Prime Minister Hamilton Green said in a statement to the National Assembly (parliament), broadcast on radio here.

Green's statement included measures to ease the inconvenience facing motorists and householders and ensure better distribution, as long queues of people were evident at petrol stations awaiting supplies.

He announced a lifting of restrictions on the opening hours of gas stations and gave dealers the flexibility to determine their business hours taking into consideration the energy management programme of the state-owned electricity company and the availability of fuel.

He said oil companies would co-operate among themselves and with gas station dealers to ensure an even distribution of available supplies to gas stations. Green also announced a ban on the sale of gasolene in containers until further notice.

Green's statement followed a meeting with representatives of oil companies, petrol dealers, the trades union congress, officials of the private sector, and other organisations to discuss the fuel shortage.

Meanwhile, the opposition Peoples Progressive Party has called on the government to look to other countries, including the Soviet Union and Venezuela, to supply Guyana's fuel needs.

Parliamentarian Clinton Collymore said Guyana was being treated worse than second class cousins, and asked why are we always making sacrifices for Caricom?

PURCHASE OF USSR, VENEZUELAN FUEL REJECTED

FL101640 Bridgetown CANA in English 1841 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 8, CANA -- The Guyana Government has rejected an opposition suggestion that it purchase fuel supplies from the Soviet Union or Venezuela instead of Trinidad and Tobago.

Clinton Collymore, a People's Progressive Party (PPP) parliamentarian, made the suggestion amid concern here this week about a fuel crisis, stemming from the government's inability to pay Trinidad and Tobago in hard currency for the required amount of supplies.

A spokesman in the office of President Desmond Hoyte said Guyana was committed to the Caribbean Community (Caricom) and to stimulating trade within the region. Both Guyana and Trinidad are Caricom members. We honour Caricom with more than lip service, the spokesman said.